

CATHOLIC GROWTH IN UNITED STATES

Pittsburgh, Pa.—An exhaustive study of the increase in the Catholic population in the United States, made by the Most Rev. J. F. Regis Canevin, Titular Archbishop of Pittsburg, will soon appear in pamphlet form.

The figure given as the Catholic population in 1922 is considerably in excess of the number given in the Catholic Directory for the same year. This divergence the Archbishop explains as follows:

The foregoing calculation places the whole number of Catholics to be accounted for at the end of 1922 at 22,733,254 which is 1,625,640 more than 18,107,614, the figures given for the Catholic population of the United States by the Catholic Directory (1922). This discrepancy does not mean that 4,625,240 are to be counted lost to the Church.

The Archbishop presents a statistical survey of the growth of the Catholic population from 40,000, which he estimates as the total, in 1790, down to the present day. Figures showing the natural increase and the increase from immigration, together with the totals, are given for each ten-year period from 1820 to 1920.

Concerning current allegations of great losses to the Church among immigrants and their children the Archbishop writes:

In settling the question of increase and progress we must bear in mind that the numbers of baptized but uninitiated and unbelieving men and women who land upon our shores from countries in which the Catholic religion is supposed to prevail. Let us always ask: in what relation to the Catholic Church did the immigrants stand in their own country?

It must also be kept in mind that not all the Catholic immigrants remain with us. Government statistics show that large numbers of immigrants die within ten years after their arrival and that, in each decade, or the past fifty years the number of foreigners who left the country was forty per cent. or over of the number that arrived in that decade.

To estimate correctly the number of foreign-born Catholics that must be accounted for, we must calculate, not by the number of Catholic immigrants within a given period but by the number who survived and were living in this country at the end of that period, according to the census reports showing the number of foreign-born persons living in the United States at the end of each decade.

The steady and rapid fall in the rate of natural increase of the population of the United States during the past fifty years, shows that race suicide, divorce, decrease of marriages, and late marriages are doing deadly work outside the Catholic body. Only immigration, which in each decade since 1860, has supplied from thirteen to fifteen per cent. of the total population, and the high Catholic birth rate, have kept our natural increase above the low level of dwindling France in the last thirty years.

ment, especially in the decrease of marriages and custom of late marriages. Their increase has been retarded also by the small proportion of women among Catholic immigrants, but despite all these hindrances there has been a high excess of births over deaths in the Catholic population.

As the role of conversions in offsetting what losses there may have been, Archbishop Canevin writes: "We do not know how many have been gained to the Church in the last one hundred years by conversion, but the gain has been great, greater than in any country in Europe. Some parishes are largely composed of converts and the descendants of converts. I am loathe to believe that our losses have been greater than our gains, especially when we consider that while less than one hundred years ago Catholics were only one in fifty of the population, they are now one in five."

FIRST POSTAL TREATY WITH THE IRISH FREE STATE

DIRECT EXCHANGE OF MONEY ORDERS AFTER JAN. 1, 1924

THE FLUCTUATIONS IN RATES OF EXCHANGE GUARDED AGAINST

To the Postmaster General of Canada has fallen the honor of signing the first Postal Treaty with the Irish Free State.

After negotiations extending over several months the terms of a Convention for the direct exchange of Money Orders between Canada and the Irish Free State have been agreed upon, and the document has been signed on behalf of Canada by The Honorable Charles Murphy, Postmaster General. This new Postal Treaty will come into effect on January 1st, 1924.

Although the Free State has had its own Postal Administration since 1st April, 1922, following the date when the Irish Treaty became effective, Money Order business between Canada and Ireland is still being carried on through the British Post Office. Orders drawn in Canada, payable in Ireland, were included in British lists and settlement has been made through the British Post Office for the payment of Orders in Ireland without extra charge for commission. On the other hand, Orders issued in Ireland, payable in Canada, have been treated as British Orders in the settlement of Money Order accounts between Canada and the United Kingdom.

After the end of the present year the Canadian and Irish Postal Administrations will settle Money Order balances between themselves through accounts which will be prepared quarterly; and the conditions under which Money Order business is to be carried on will be practically the same as those under which Money Orders are now exchanged between Canada and the other important self-governing Dominions, such as Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

There will be no change in the method of obtaining Money Orders that will affect the public in Canada, and the rates of commission will remain unchanged. The maximum amount of each Order shall be one hundred dollars when issued in Canada, and not to exceed forty pounds when issued in Ireland. The amounts of Money Orders drawn in Canada shall be expressed in dollars and in Ireland in sterling money. Orders are to remain payable in each country for twelve months after the expiration of the month of issue.

It is stipulated in the Convention that should it appear at any time that Money Orders are used by mercantile men or others in the Irish Free State, or in Canada, for the transmission of large sums of money, the Free State Post Office or the Canadian Post Office, as the case may be, shall have power to suspend wholly or in part, the issue of Money Orders. This provision is made to prevent remitters taking advantage of sudden changes in rates of exchange which might result in considerable loss to either Administration before the Money Order rates could be adjusted to meet heavy fluctuations.

GERMAN NUNS VICTIMS OF TUBERCULOSIS

Cologne, Aug. 21.—The Vicar-General of the archdiocese of Cologne has just published a report on the condition of the Catholic sisterhoods in that once rich diocese, based on an exhaustive investigation of more than three years. The report is significant of the sufferings which these noble women have undergone. In part it is as follows: "In the Cologne archdiocese, there are 10,700 sisters engaged in the instruction of girls, in the care of orphans and of the sick and the needy, and in the contemplative life. The examination conducted occupied a period of three years and a half, from 1918 to the middle of 1922. "In that time no less than 399 nuns died from tuberculosis, while 514 were under medical care for tuberculosis and hundreds of others were suspected of being tubercular. What do these figures prove? From the Prussian statistics of 1920 it was shown that of every 10,000 inhabitants, 16.3 died of

tuberculosis. Based on these figures the number of nuns who died each year from tuberculosis was 88. Of those who died, no less than 24% were under thirty years of age. Another 45% died before they were forty years of age. In three years as much as the total personnel of ten large hospitals died."

One German newspaper commented on the statistics as follows: "And what is the cause of the death of so many nuns? The general heroism of their lives! The need and the starvation of people after the War and the armistice! The monasteries and charitable establishments suffered the greatest need of all. Those who labored for charity overworked themselves. The needs of the orphans, the invalids, the poor and the sick were incessant. The sisters sacrificed themselves. They denied themselves in order to give to their foster children. Many a fervid orator would do well to take example from the silent sufferings of these sisters, which inspire us and lay a great debt upon us. We must, if we ever can, repay that debt."

OBITUARY

MRS. BRYAN DOWNEY

There passed away at her home on Wednesday, August 29, another of those early pioneers to whom the County of Huron owe such a debt of gratitude for the magnificent homes everywhere to be seen. Mrs. Downey, whose maiden name was Johanna McCoy, was born in Limerick County, Ireland, eighty-seven years ago and came to Canada when eighteen years of age.

Fifty-six years ago on November 26th, she was married to Mr. Downey, and for fifty years they lived at Beechwood, moving to St. Columban about five years ago. She is survived by her bereaved husband, Mr. Downey, and five daughters and two sons: Sister Eusebia of St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. James Cronin, Dublin; Mrs. Dan Cronin and Mrs. John Cronin, St. Columban; Mrs. Ed. Horan, Beechwood; John Downey, St. Columban and Joseph Downey, Beechwood.

Mrs. Downey was of a very fine character and enjoyed good health throughout her long life-time, never having a doctor until six weeks before her death. Her last illness was only of one week's duration from heart trouble. The deceased was a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church and received all its rites before death. The funeral was held from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dan Cronin to the St. Columban Church, Rev. Father White singing the Requiem High Mass. Interment was made in St. Columban cemetery with a very large attendance. The pall-bearers were P. McGrath, P. Flannery, John Holland, Owen Hart, John Shea and Louis Riley, R. I. P.

MRS. ELLEN O'DONNELL

The death, in her seventy-sixth year, after several weeks illness, of Mrs. Ellen O'Donnell, relict of the late John O'Donnell of Arthur Township, County of Wellington, Ont., who predeceased her a few years ago, took place in Dundas on the 28th of August, 1923. One son in his boyhood years, and one daughter Mrs. D. Cantion, also predeceased her. The surviving members of the family are three sons, James, John J., and Francis, all settled in well improved farms in Arthur and Peel Townships, and a daughter, Mrs. O'Connor living in Arthur Village. Three other daughters, viz., Sister Vincentia, Sister Immaculata, and Sister Crescentia, are members of St. Joseph's Community, Hamilton. After attending to the deceased for a short time in Arthur township they had her brought to Dundas where her spiritual and temporal welfare, under their personal supervision, could be more conscientiously attended to. There it was that, amid such desirable family surroundings and consoled and fortified by the Sacraments of the Catholic Church, of which she was a devoted member, her death, a most happy one, took place.

The remains were taken to Arthur, and from the old home-stead, now occupied by her son, Francis, the funeral, largely attended by former friends and acquaintances, proceeded on Friday the 31st ult. to the Sacred Heart Church, Kenilworth, where a Requiem High Mass was celebrated by Mgr. Kelly, Vicar-General of Dundas, who also delivered an eloquent and well received address very appropriate for the occasion, with Rev. T. Malone as Deacon, and Rev. A. Callaghan as sub-deacon and Rev. T. Doyle as Master of Ceremonies.

The pall bearers were Messrs. James and Joseph Stack, Daniel Cantion, Peter O'Donnell, John J. O'Donnell and Leonard O'Connor. Interment took place in the family plot in the Catholic Cemetery at Kenilworth. R. I. P.

BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT OF CANADIAN MOTHERS

Paris, August 24.—A certain number of prominent Canadians who came to France with an exhibition train, were guests at a banquet at the Hotel-de-Ville of Dijon. The bishop of the city, Mgr. Landrieux, spoke during the reception and

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE, AURORA, ONT.

EXAMINATION RESULTS, 1923 The following are, in brief, the results obtained this year by the students of De La Salle College, Aurora, in the Lower, Middle, and Upper School Departmental Examinations. In the Upper School, they wrote 89 papers and passed on 65, making 73%. In the Middle School, they wrote 98 papers and passed on 90, making 92%. In the Lower School, they wrote 112 papers and passed on 96, making 84%. The particularly high percentage in the Middle School class is shown by the fact that the students in that class obtained 34 first-class honors (75-100), 22 second-class honors (60-74), 15 third-class honors (50-59), 19 credits (50-59). Five graduates successfully completed their Normal School Course (First Class) at the Toronto Normal School.

HISTORICAL PAGEANT

London, August 25.—For three days this week Arundel Castle, the historic home of the Catholic Dukes of Norfolk, is awakening from the past, and presenting to English eyes a pageant of history in which members of this ancient house have largely figured.

To reach Arundel one passes the stone bridge that crosses the river Arun, and anyone who would know all about the Arun and beautiful Sussex will find its stories and its beauties plentifully strewn in the books of Hiram Beck, who is himself a scire of Sussex.

Over the stone bridge the road leads into the little village, with its magnificent church built by the late Duke, and splendid with all the splendor of England's most famous architecture. The road rises as it goes along through the village, and on the brow of the hill rises the famous castle, its massive towers and frowning grey battlements rising as they have risen these past centuries. For the grandeur of its architecture and the hoariness of its antiquity, Arundel Castle has only one serious rival in England, the famed Windsor Castle. And with these frowning battlements, and jutting towers, its castellated battlements, its green lawns and aged trees for a background, pages from the past are being staged for the benefit of a Christian charity.

From all the nearby villages in the dukedom groups of inhabitants are each giving a representation of some historic episode. Littlehampton will show how the Normans arrived at Arundel and drove out the Saxon inhabitants. Chichester itself a relic of the long past, will present an episode in which the Catholic Bishop of far-off days founded the College and Hospital of the Holy Trinity. And so the scenes go on, down to our own day, when the long line of the Catholic holders of this title will be represented dating from the time of Alfred the Great. This historic procession of the Earls of Arundel will be ended by the present Duke of Norfolk, a noble of fourteen years, who will appear in the costume of his own time and thus complete the historic completeness of the picture.

A STIRRING REMINDER

One of the significant features of the day of national mourning for the late President Harding was the eagerness with which the people of the country responded to the appeals of their religious leaders to pray for God's guidance and direction on those who govern the country. From all over the country the reports have come of remarkable throngs assembled in prayer. This was a stirring reminder of the new light that is beginning to dawn in the aroused consciousness of all citizens on the need of religion in the affairs of men. It will be long remembered to President Harding's credit that he never delivered an address or issued a proclamation that did not in some open manner refer to Almighty God's direction over the affairs of men, and to the need of following His eternal principles along the pathway to national peace and prosperity. Indeed his last words, like the farewell of the dying McKinley, breathing the religious spirit that he ardently wished his fellow citizens to share are a precious legacy worthy of being long treasured.

It is no wonder then that the nation's outpouring of sympathy, so widespread, so universal, and so sincere should find its expression. From that experience we hope that much good will come. As the Boston Herald well says in an editorial: "Economists and thoughtful public leaders have been stressing with striking frequency the necessity of getting away from the market place to the temple more often. What a glorious monument to Warren Harding, if the people would carry with them through life more of the spirit which then moved them." And we might add, what a changed world it would be if all who remembered the late President's oft repeated references to Almighty God, would remember always to place God's will first in their daily lives.—The Pilot.

Books are the legacies that a great genius leaves to mankind, which are delivered down from generation to generation as presents to the posterity of those who are yet unborn.—Joseph Addison. Perfect health, which may be destroyed by a piece of bad news, by grief or anxiety, is often restored by a good hearty laugh.

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