

ENGAGEMENTS MUST AFTER EASTER BE IN WRITING

The Document Must be Signed by Both Parties and by the Pastor, Bishop or Two Witnesses—Recent Papal Decree on Marriage Read at Catholic Churches of Diocese Yesterday.

The following circular addressed to the priests of the diocese of St. John was yesterday read in the cathedral and all the Catholic churches of the city and diocese:

Reverend Dear Father:

As you are already aware, the recent papal decree "Ne Temere," enacts new legislation in regard to marriage, which will go into effect on Easter Sunday of this year. The decree has been already sent you which should be read and fully explained to the people, in order to obviate the serious difficulties and disadvantages that would follow from an invalid marriage. To accomplish this necessary work fully, it may be required to explain the sections in a series of instructions on the subject of marriage.

Special attention is called to the following points of the new legislation:

1. The law binds those who have been baptized in the Catholic church, whether in infancy or later by conversion, even though they should afterwards have fallen away from the church.

2. The law binds all those persons even when they make engagements or contract marriages with non-Catholics.

It must be particularly noted that no matrimonial engagement will henceforth be valid or binding except under the following conditions:

(a) The engagements must be in writing and signed by both parties.

(b) It must also be signed by the pastor, or bishop of the place where the contract is made, or else by two witnesses.

(c) If either or both of the contracting parties cannot write, this fact should be noted in the contract, and a third person must also sign the document besides the pastor, bishop, or two witnesses.

Concerning marriages, it is necessary to distinguish between those things that are required for the validity and those required for the lawfulness of the marriage contract. In the former, the priest is not required to be present, but in the latter he is.

1. In order that the marriage contract may be valid and binding, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

(a) The priest must be present in the presence of the parish-priest or bishop of the diocese where the marriage takes place, or else in the presence of a priest who has been appointed by either to perform the ceremony.

2. It is on the conscience of the pastor to make every possible effort to have the marriage within the limits of his parish be licit as well as valid, and, in order to their lawfulness, the following prescriptions are to be observed:

(a) The pastor must be satisfied in conscience that the parties are free from every canonical impediment to marriage, and, if they are strangers, they must have testimonial letters in their own hands.

(b) He can perform the ceremony for his own parishioners only, or such as have acquired a domicile by at least one month's residence within the limits of his parish.

(c) Should strangers present themselves, those viz. who are neither parishioners nor have lived one month in the parish, the pastor is obliged to secure the permission, and that explicit, of the pastor or bishop of the bride, and if there be substantial reason why this should not be done, the permission of the groom's pastor or bishop should be obtained. While grave reasons may excuse from either of these obligations, the priest should in this case consult his own bishop before the ceremony.

(d) As has been the custom generally in this diocese, marriage should also in the future be contracted before the pastor of the bride.

(e) In case strangers should present themselves for marriage in this diocese, no priest should presume to assist at such ceremony without having obtained permission from the bishop, unless delay should be evidently inadvisable by reason of some urgent necessity.

Two exceptional cases are mentioned in the decree, for which provision is made, should they, perchance, arise:

1. In imminent danger of death, if neither the pastor nor the bishop can be had, and the deceased marriage be necessary to save conscience or legitimate children, marriage may be contracted before any priest and two witnesses.

2. If neither the bishop nor the pastor can be had, and if this difficulty should last for a month in any district, marriage may be validly and licitly contracted by formal declaration of consent made by the parties before two witnesses, no priest assisting.

The proper keeping of the marriage records according to the new legislation is a very serious matter, and obliges the pastor and grave attend to the proper registry of the marriage in every particular case. A single culpable omission of this duty constitutes a grave matter.

1. This duty devolves on the pastor, even when another priest, or priest of another parish, officiates in his parish, and should be attended to at once after the ceremony. The entry should contain the date, the names of the contracting parties, of the witnesses, of the officiating priest, also a marginal note of any dispensation obtained and executed; as well as a statement that the marriage record was transferred to the place of baptism of each party.

2. Another and altogether new obligation is imposed on the pastor by the recent legislation—of recording in the baptismal registry the fact of the marriage of every person who had been baptized in his parish, as also of sending a copy of any marriage of strangers or parties who had been born outside of his parish to the parish-priest of their birthplace. Hence it is evident that there is an obligation on the pastor to inquire where and when each of the parties was baptized.

As it is evident that serious obligations and duties are imposed on the priests by the new legislation, the people are earnestly requested to be obedient in their demands on their pastor, to give him timely notice of intended marriages, and to assist him in every possible way to acquire all necessary information concerning possible impediments, and of place of birth and baptism. Inasmuch as possible parties intending marriage when they come from outside or foreign countries, should procure baptismal certificates before marriage, and thus save any and feasible the obligation of the priests to transmit copies of the marriage records to their proper jurisdiction. It will also facilitate matters, if parties intending marriage should enter into communication in good time with the pastor of the district where the bride resides.

From the context of the decree, as well as from the explicit statements of this circular, it is abundantly evident that the church, considering marriage as a sacrament, is legislating for the protection of her own children only, and has no desire or intention of interfering with the marriage of non-Catholics among themselves, whether they be baptized or not.

To remove dangers and doubts concerning the validity of marriage, the want of proper jurisdiction, the bishop of this diocese hereby declares that all priests doing parochial work in the diocese, whether in charge or assistants, are parish-priests in order and matrimonium.

Kindly read and explain this letter as fully and clearly as possible to all your people at your earliest convenience, so that they may be spared the grave and serious evils and disadvantages of invalid or doubtfully valid marriages.

Further details have been, and are still, appearing in the columns of the "New Freeman," which paper, it is hoped, is already entering most of the Catholic families of the diocese.

While we have every reason to be grateful to God that there is in our country no perceptible trace of the errors condemned by our holy father in the recent syllabus and the encyclical on modernism, yet to guard against the danger of such incursions, we cheerfully obey the prescriptions made by the pontiff in regard to diocesan censors and a council of vigilance.

The duty of the censors shall be to examine the various publications circulating among the people, and that of the council of vigilance to inquire into the doctrines taught or implied, in the effort to discover the first signs of contagion and to apply the proper remedies. For this purpose the Rev. A. J. O'Neill of Silver Falls and the Rev. L. DeBlanc of Shediac are hereby appointed censors for publications in the English and French languages respectively.

As a council of vigilance, the Very Rev. W. F. Chapman, V. G., the Very Rev. J. Hebert, V. G., and the Rev. L. Guertin, superior of St. Joseph's College, and the Rev. A. W. Meahan, are hereby appointed; and the censors of the diocese are requested to give every generous co-operation to these officers in the performance of their duties.

When, in addition to a high mass of requiem, there is required the funeral service, the ordinary stipend will be five dollars, which may be increased by any extraordinary ceremonies are required and supplied.

Yours faithfully in Dno.,

T. CASEY,
Bishop of St. John.

A. W. MEAHAN, Secretary,
St. John, N. B., April 6, 1908.

\$700 TO BE INDEMNITY OF NOVA SCOTIA MEMBERS

HALIFAX, April 11.—Seven hundred dollars will in future be the indemnity of the members of the Nova Scotia legislature. That was decided in the house of assembly this afternoon on motion of Premier Murray by a vote of 24 to 4.



This is the latest photo of Mrs. Dr. David Jayne Hill, wife of the American minister to the Hague, President Roosevelt selected Mr. Hill to succeed Ambassador Tower at Berlin. It was first said that the Kaiser objected to him because of some impoliteness during the visit of Prince Henry of Prussia to America. The German government now denies this and it is said that the objection to Dr. Hill is American and not German.

ASQUITH NOW PREMIER; TWO NEW MEN HAVE ENTERED THE CABINET

LONDON, April 12.—Official announcement was made tonight of the new cabinet appointments. They are identical with the forecast made by the Daily Chronicle a few days ago, and announced in these dispatches, as follows:

Lord H. Asquith, premier and first lord of the treasury.

David Lloyd-George, chancellor of the exchequer.

Lord Tweedmouth, president of the council.

Earl of Crewe, secretary of state for the colonies.

Reginald McKenna, first lord of the Board of Education.

Winston Spencer Churchill, president of the Board of Trade.

Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Education.

John Morley, secretary of state for India.

Colonel J. F. Seeley has been appointed under-secretary for the colonies; Lord Lucas, parliamentary secretary, war office; F. D. Acland, financial secretary, war office, and Thomas R. Butler, parliamentary secretary, India office.

The newspapers here received the new cabinet list with great interest. The changes are less than expected, the net result, as far as actual cabinet officers are concerned, being that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Earl of Elgin, secretary for the colonies, have been dropped and Messrs. Churchill and Runciman have entered. But the news also and the re-organizing portfolios are considered to have greatly strengthened the government.

While Mr. Asquith seems to have managed to make the necessary changes in the cabinet without offending his own party, the substitution of the Earl of Crewe for the Earl of Elgin is admired by the Conservative press as admirable, and David Lloyd-George's promotion is universally approved as having been inevitable.

The only appointment provoking criticism, even among the Liberals, is that of Reginald McKenna to the admiralty, which is supposed to have been due to his personal friendship with the premier.

REPUDIATED HIS CONFESSION OF CRIME

James Sangster Succeeded in Getting Into Trouble However

MONTREAL, April 12.—James Sangster, who gave himself up to the police in New York, claiming that he had killed a young French farmer named Delorme on the back river road, near this city, last fall, and who was brought back here to stand trial, was arraigned on Saturday in the police court and promptly repudiated his confession, saying that he had only told the truth for the sake of getting a free trip back to Montreal. James did not walk free a free man, however, for not only did the police refuse to accept his story, but they also laid a charge of robbing a man of \$120 against him, and to this Sangster pleaded guilty. So his return to Canada will probably mean several years' residence in the penitentiary.

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FIVE MEN DROWNED; MANY MISSING

Great Damage Done By Saturday's Furious Wind-Storm

NEW YORK, April 11.—Five men are known to have lost their lives, a boatmen are reported missing and dozens of persons were injured today as the result of a furious wind-storm which set in here this afternoon. For hours the wind raged, and according to the local weather bureau ranged generally between 40 and 50 miles an hour, but at times its velocity registered as high as 60 miles. Pedestrians suffered much discomfort besides being in constant danger from falling signs, shutters and awnings, which were torn from their fastenings. A boat containing three men was seen to upset in Petham Bay. Persons on shore saw the men drown. Owners of boat houses reported to the police tonight that a number of their small boats, hired to fishermen, had not returned up to a late hour, and they feared for the occupants.

The force of the wind on the city streets may be judged by the fact that it swept Legis Spector, 14 years old, from the roof of a two-story house of which he had ventured. The lad suffered a fractured skull and internal injuries as a result of his terrible fall and probably will die. Incoming ships report heavy weather at sea.

NEW STRENGTH FOR THE SPRING

Nature Needs Assistance In Making New Health-Giving Blood

In the spring your system needs toning up. In the spring to be healthy and strong you must have new blood. Just as the trees must have new sap, nature demands it and nature's laws are inexorable. Without new blood you will feel weak and languid. You may have twinges of rheumatism, or the sharp, stabbing pains of neuralgia, there may be disgusting pimples or eruptions of the skin, and a variable appetite. These are some of the signs that the blood is out of order, that the long trying months of indoor winter life have told upon you. A purgative medicine, such as too many people take in spring, can't help you. Purgatives merely gallop through the system, and further weaken you. Any doctor will tell you that this is true. What people need in spring is a tonic medicine, one that stands in all the world there is no tonic can equal Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Every dose of this medicine helps to make new, rich, red blood—your greatest need in spring. This new, red blood clears the skin, drives out disease and makes weak, easily tired men, women and children bright, active and strong. This great blood-building medicine this spring, and see what new life and energy it will give you.

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills from any medicine dealer or by mail post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

ANOTHER PLEA FOR THE SCOTT ACT

Better Than License Law Says Toronto Temperance Man

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 12.—B. H. Spence, of Toronto, secretary of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Temperance League, addressed today meetings at the Opera House, one this afternoon and another this evening. B. C. Foster presided at the former meeting, and J. Weddall at the latter. Mr. Spence discussed the advance temperance had made in years past and like former speakers, made an appeal to support the Scott Act in preference to a licensing law. Mr. Spence will occupy the Opera House for the next three nights.

The funeral of the late Miss Mary McDonald was held this afternoon from her sister's residence on Charlotte street, and was largely attended. Service was conducted at St. Dunstan's Church by Father Carney, and interment made at the Hermitage.

SUBSIDY TO MANCHESTER

S. S. LINE IS RENEWED

OTTAWA, April 12.—The subsidy to the Manchester Line has been renewed for a year. The line has been giving Canada a service for a number of years.

Schooner Did Not Sink

ST. THOMAS, D. W. I., April 11.—It has been learned that the American schooner E. Thompson, from Baltimore, March 25, for Jamaica, which struck a reef off the island of Anegada, one of the British West Indies, did not sink, as was reported yesterday. The vessel lies on the reef where she struck. There is little likelihood of salvaging her. The Thompson was a 200-ton, built boat and her home port was Boston.

most serious, and grave fear is felt that she may be unable to reach port. The steamer Argentine is also reported badly damaged. She tried once to reach the coast but was driven back amid the fies by storms and lack of coal.

UNITED STATES WARIED TO GET READY FOR WAR WITH THE JAPANESE

Capt. Hobson, of Merrimac Family, Congress That Japan is Preparing Fight and That Only Immediate Increase of American Navy and Armaments Can Prevent Conflict.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 11.—Pointing out what he declared to be the precarious condition of the national defense of the United States, both in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, Capt. R. R. Hobson, of Alabama, in the House of Representatives today made earnest plea for two battleships of 25,000 tons displacement in addition to the two authorized by the naval appropriation bill. He said that a conservative estimate would indicate that for the minimum basis of security and safety in the Pacific Ocean, the United States should lay down at least four big ships a year for many years to come, "until Japan concedes to us what is inevitable—the American control of the sea around which our possessions are scattered." As a minimum for the Atlantic Ocean the government should lay down six battleships a year, he said.

The possibility of a conflict with Japan was discussed at length by Mr. Hobson. He said it was but perfectly natural for Japan to aspire to dominate the commerce of China, the commerce of Asia and of the Pacific Ocean. And he added it was perfectly natural for Japan to seek to control the policies of China and to attain supremacy in the Pacific Ocean, and to lead the Yellow race toward a recognized supremacy in the world.

With regard to the great nations of the white race, Mr. Hobson said, "It is, of course, clear to the Japanese statesman that America is the one great nation standing athwart of the realization of these ambitions. It is true that America only asks a fair chance and no favor—simply the open-door policy in China—but this policy goes counter to Japanese ambitions."

Pursuing his analysis of the conditions in the Pacific, Mr. Hobson declared that "we cannot ignore the fact that Japan has undertaken stupendous war preparations, preparations which have doubled the national debt of Japan since the war with Russia was over. It estimates that she has between 300,000 and 400,000 men under arms, yet there is no menace from the armies of Siberia or the armies of China or the armies of Europe. No nation since the world began has ever maintained such an army, under such conditions except as a preparation for an early campaign of aggression."

Some, he said, had imagined that Japan's warlike preparations were intended for China, but he declared no one could conceive how a great navy would be needed, whereas there is scarcely a Chinese gunboat. The United States, he said, could not ignore the fact that warlike activities have been going on in Japan "at a feverish rate," and that two naval bases had been established in Formosa and the Pescadores Islands, down near Luzon, and that as soldiers were discharged at Hiroshima they emigrated to Hawaii.

Mr. Hobson charged that Japanese spies have been diligent and active throughout the Philippines, in our outlying possessions, throughout all parts of America, in our forts, arsenals, shipyards, and particularly up and down the coast along the Pacific, in using the elements of America's defense and mapping and charting harbors and approaches from the rear to our coast-wise forts and to our cities.

Mr. Hobson went so far as to say that fifty million dollars in battleships would have enabled the United States to force Russia to evacuate Manchuria at the time she agreed to do so, and in that case the war between Russia and Japan would have been averted.

"The war cloud is out of our hearing," Mr. Hobson said in conclusion, "and fallure on the part of America to build up a naval power adequate to keep peace in the Pacific ocean will be liable to entail not only a war between America and Japan, but ultimately a war between the white race and the yellow race, and engender a hatred and anger between the races that would prevent the carrying of the gospel of peace throughout Asia."

A spirited debate followed, which was still in progress when the House adjourned.

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NEW ENGLAND TRADE DEPRESSED

Little Improvement Expected Before National Political Conventions

BOSTON, April 10.—General trade in New England continues depressed and business men do not anticipate any marked improvement until after the national political conventions in June and July, if then. The spring trade in the country districts is expected to aid temporarily, but buying in wholesale and manufacturing circles is largely on a hand to mouth character. Merchants and dealers do not know whether to stock up now when prices are low or wait to determine if things have reached rock bottom. There are about a quarter of a million working men and women on short time in New England. The majority are also having their wages reduced 10 per cent. By

"SPRING FEVER"

The need of a spring medicine seems to be universal. This is due to the fact that during the winter the blood becomes impure on account of the hearty food eaten. This causes that tired, weary, all-gone, don't-care-to-work feeling which is so prevalent at this time of year.

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

THAT TIRED FEELING. Mr. F. H. Leard, Saskatoon, Sask., writes: "I have used Burdock Blood Bitters as a blood purifier. It has done me a great deal of good and I think it an excellent remedy. Everyone should take it in the spring to cure that tired feeling that comes to so many at this time of year."

USES IT EVERY SPRING. Mr. H. Langley, Hamilton, Ont., writes: "I have used Burdock Blood Bitters as a spring tonic, and I find it the best thing I can take. It builds me right up and I use it every spring. It is excellent for the blood."

"SPRING MEDICINE"

we are all made sick folks buy in have more QUININE. FROM QUININE. OF E. W. over to Cure