

The Catholic Record

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1910

To all our readers we wish a very happy and prosperous New Year.

CATHOLICISM AND SOCIALISM

We have received a clipping upon the above named subject which our correspondents request to be treated unsparingly. It is a criticism of an article which Father Bernard Vaughan wrote some time ago against Socialism and which he entitled "A plain Christian's opinion of Socialism."

right of private property which was maintained by Our Lord and has been ever the doctrine of the Church. What the first Christians practised is still practised in religious communities where voluntary poverty is the strength of the whole body and the freedom of the individual member.

THE CRISIS IN ENGLAND

Elastic as the constitution of England is generally admitted to be, the present crisis is stretching it well nigh to breaking. What may be the conservative strength beneath all the currents of opinion and the workings of socialistic and democratic agitation remains to be seen.

last four years. If we fail in the coming general election, assuming that his Majesty is pleased to dissolve Parliament, it will only be the beginning of a conflict which can end only in one way.

THE SACRED MINISTRY

We have received a sermon by our friend the Rev. Mr. Ker, Rector of St. George's Church, St. Catharines. The subject is the Sacred Office of the Ministry. Before entering upon an analysis of the discourse we take the opportunity afforded by this holy Christmas time of sending our special message of joy and peace to its author.

The mission in question is authentic because the Church testifies to it. We may say the same about the sacrificial power bestowed upon the priests of the New Law in the commission: "Do this in commemoration of me."

WINSTON CHURCHILL

The cable brings us each day reports of the speeches made by Liberals and Unionists in the English election campaign. It is perhaps the hottest battle that ever took place at an English election. To the average onlooker it would seem to be the death struggle of that section of the aristocracy who finally believe they are given by some mysterious power the right to govern their fellow subjects.

WE REGRET to note that our fellow citizen who edits the Orange Sentinel persists in living in an atmosphere of superstition. Lately we drew attention to what would confront a reader upon opening its pages. We are sorry he interpreted this as meaning that articles with such headings were to be found in the pages of the paper each week.

DEATH OF REV. P. BRENNAN

When, on last Sunday, Rev. J. T. Aylward, the Rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, in this city, asked for the prayers of the faithful for the repose of the soul of Rev. P. Brennan, parish priest of St. Mary's Diocese of London, whose death took place on Christmas eve, the thought came to the elderly portion of the congregation that the great and beloved pioneer priest of Western Ontario are fast passing to their reward.

The venture has not been profitable and there will in the course of time be the usual apologetic tone. But this will not avail. Apology or no apology, the Hearst publications will, we hope, be excluded from all Catholic homes.

ALTHOUGH WE MAY BE CONSIDERED

offensively impudent, we feel constrained to refer once more to the style of sermons preached in the Baptist Church of this city. Monday mornings bring us a synopsis of discourses in the churches of our separated friends. Some of them have a meritorious ring. Some of them we regret to say, are to but too many, we regret to say, are to such an extent tinged with worldly matters that they smack more of the hustings than the pulpit.

we are inclined to believe they were right. It is a great pity that in the religious system of our separated brethren there is not some authority which, as Father O'Flynn says, would have the power to "beatise the crazy ones." Rev. Dr. Snelair, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, and who was in charge of the Presbyterian Church in Dawson City for a considerable period, lectured in Winnipeg on the 18th of December, on the moral conditions in the far north. He positively denied the charge of gross immorality there, maintaining that Dawson is just as moral as Winnipeg and probably more so.

REV. HENRY J. PLATER, S. J., writes

to the English Catholic Times to say that in these days the welfare of the Catholic Church depends very much on the condition of the Catholic press. "Wherever the apostolate of the Catholic press," he says, "is zealously and methodically taken up, Catholic life revives, Catholic institutions flourish, Catholic principles are held in honor and Catholic rights are defended."

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