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LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 24, 1920

## OUR RURAL SCHOOLS

The writer can remember the time for a quarter of a century or more of sons. stagnation in matters educational. From this excessive self-complacency is perhaps only natural—the proverbial swing of the pendulum.

Some Catholic writers on the subject seem to take great delight in this evidence of the unsatisfactory nature of our school system. We desire to register against any such attitude an emphatic protest. The failure, in so far as there is a failure. of our educational system, is our failure just as much as it is the failure of our non-Catholic fellow Cana-

Nevertheless, between the excessive self-complacency of some years ago and the radical discontent of today there is no question that present day dissatisfaction, wisely guided, opens the way to real betterment of our school system. In this we may hope that Catholics, instead of standing aside, may fully cooperate. In a sense they are more deeply interested than others; in no sense can they be less deeply concerned.

In dealing with the subject we shall first treat of rural schools. The late Minister of Education proceeding on the assumption that rural schools were lagging far behind this age of educational progress, provided for Consolidated Schools. It may or may not be necessary to explain what the Consolidated Schools plan means. It means the consolidation of three or four or five or six of the present rural school sections into one, with a correspondingly large graded school, staffed with three or four or five or six force permitting such consolidation. So far the legislation is purely permissive. There are many who would and always will be." make it coercive. Just concluded in The Globe is a series of eight articles gels at this point. "Is this latter fine photographs. After months of by Inspector Putman-one of the all statement true?" he asks. (That is, experimenting, he turned out his too few professional educationists will the country pupils always excel first perfect half tone plate the charges to the poor man steadily forget that under the Canadian Conwith constructive ideas-advocating Consolidated Schools and County Boards. To these County Boards he | manual training tend to give city | some of the arguments of the advowould give very largely the powers boys the tests so often imposed upon cates of manual training, but, it now exercised by the Education Da. | country boys by varying duties of | seems to me, none is more convincpartment. Anything coming from life on a farm? The country boy ing than the simple statement of the great respect; but we think Inspec. so nething; he is constantly meeting Leonine. tor Putman himself would welcome energencies. Dr. G. Stanley Hall intelligent and constructive criti- declared that the farmer boy had to me recently, that there are no bad cism. While we think no one who know about seventy different indus boys. We have here but a handful has had any experience in the prem. tries, and must daily meet and over- of the Brothers, in charge of almost ises would hold him wrong in wish. come the severest tests of industry two thousand of the worst specimens ing to abolish the present absurd and skill. He must think, and act New York can send us. rural school section control of edu. while thinking, which makes him "I would not ask for better friends cational matters, and without wish. resourceful as well as self-reliant. than any one can have in these boys, ing to put ourselves in opposition to All this is education, and fits him if he really wishes their friendship. him in many things he so forcefully for leadership; but manual training They are generous and tender presents, we can do no other than put does all this and more." both the ranks of the clergy and of not only affords but compels. entirely disproportionate number of are now committed may or may not recognition of this fact that is

Catholics have therefore a very real interest in rural Public Schools.

Some preliminary considerations consolidating rural school sections.

One we shall briefly state though | magazine : it might well be the subject of an entire article. The pupils from the the Entrance Examination than every way, but especially with regard intelligent interest in school matters. life.

Let us quote a statement or two: Dr. Gunsaulus, head of the Armaddressing the farmers of Manitoba, said :

the great population of our land.

that will be of great help in dealing in his work of looking it ready for the Sullivan expressly says : with men in later life.

must solve all the great problems professions are recruited every year from the ranks of the plowboys, and the farm today exerts its influence in every walk of life."-Wignings Tribune.

Here is another: Some years ago

the Rev. Dr. Dwight Hillis wrote: "A canvass of a large eastern city showed that nintey four per cent. of its leading men were brought up on the farm. Of one hundred repre- smile. sentative commercial and profes. sional men of Chicago, eighty-five were reared in the country. A census of the students of four piece of copy, stopping to talk with they had gathered. Sinn Fein of zens in a free country raise their colleges and seminaries showed that another boy about the work he was Cork is to be congratulated on their voices in protest against any incithe rural districts furnished eighty- doing. Another of these incorrigiquickly succeeded by men from the was taken by Brother Paul to assist country. They always have been, him in the photograph gallery, and

the constantly enlarging influence of hands. I have already presented Inspector Putman we receive with learns early that he can and must do director of the Protectory, Brother

ourselves in radical opposition Mr. Vanderpoole-or anybody else ally active and intelligent goes withto his advocacy of Consoli- for that matter-does not question out saying. That is, at bottom, the dated Schools. In this discussion Dr. Hillis's statement with regard to reason why they are here. Most of we prescind altogether from any con- the supremacy of farm-bred men. them came to trouble because they sideration affecting Separate schools. He maintains that manual training were too eager in their blind scram-The Separate School system is, if not for city and town bred pupils will bling in a strange world that did not entirely, at least predominantly an supply the place of the educational know how to treat them." urban system. And in any case a training afforded by the farm. This very large proportion of our people is the real basis on which the costly are entirely outside the scope of scheme of technical education rests. Farm life supplements the rural Separate Schools. Nor shall we do We wish to emphasize the value—the

the religious teaching orders draw an Line technical training to which we their members from those rural pub- fulfil all expectations and hopes. responsible for the extensive system lic schools which are altogether out. The farm has proved itself a large of manual training now being inaugside the Separate School system. and important factor in education. urated for urban children.

rural schools have done better on education is now largely manual; country will simply give to country latest issue of the Canada Gazette. those of the urban schools. Better ishing. The idea here takes a highly proved itself inferior to the present to age. Country pupils of thirteen, are both educational and productive. the time required to travel the twelve, and even ten years of age In all the schools where manual train. greater distance, will in a large have out-classed urban pupils of ing is in operation, it has been found measure deprive the country child fourteen, fifteen and even sixteen that a boy's interest is keener, that of that important part of education years of age. That is a significant he learns more rapidly, and that he now imposed on him by the present fact known to all who take an retains what he learns more thor. conditions of farm life. oughly, when he is constructing a And not only do rural pupils excel work bench, or making the tools he is urban scholars on this examin- to use. At the Protectory this prination, but they beat them all through ciple is so clearly demonstrated that no one can see and question. For ties in Ireland are busily engaged four hours every day the two thou- suppressing fairs and raiding the sand boys are as busy as the workers premises of law-abiding citizens for our Institute, a few years ago in in any commercial factory. They are evidence of new made crimes the not kept at one monotonous task, real old fashioned criminals go scotbut are taken from one stage to "Every one of the twelve great another, learning as they go. All the preachers of Chicago was raised on work about the buildings is done by the farm. All of the great the boys. They run the engines, and as his authority for the statement that when teachers, trustees, visitors and journalists of that city were country have charge of the dynamos. They the policeman killed in Dublin was all others who spoke on the subject bred and 86 of the 100 leading have wired the buildings and fitted murdered by a criminal well known simply vied with each other in praise physicians were raised on the them with electric lights. There are to the authorities. But while they of "the best school system in the farm." He said further, "that 81 of squads of masons, painters, plumbers, offer £5,000 for the apprehension of world," which was the Ontario school the 100 biggest corporation lawyers some still wearing knickerbockers, his supposed Sinn Fein assailants system. That was a bad state of of Chicago were raised in the country who are as competent as many jour. they take no action against the real affairs. The state of mind which and that 78 out of the 100 most neymen. They also have a printing criminal. We are informed that the made that possible was responsible efficient engineers were farmers' establishment that does work for Freeman's Journal openly alleged hundreds of city customers, supplying that criminals were allowed immun-"I congratulate you that you are office stationery, posters, programs, ity from arrest and punishment in from the country, said Dr. Gunsaulus and books. The only man in the to the 800 farmer students whom he room is the foreman, who was brought dound to the discredit of Sinn Fein. was addressing. I, too, was raised up in this institution. The other To a peremptory remonstrance the Apostles Peter, James and John on the farm. The greatest calling workers are from nine to sixteen Freeman's Journal replied that it came down to this earth and laid F. Vane was relegated to unemploy. that we know of is that of bringing years old. In the morning every boy was prepared to submit evidence to their hands upon the heads of from the earth the sustanance of life. receives a piece of copy, and is left substantiate its allegations. It was Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, You are the most fortunate among to put it in form according to his promptly suppressed. judgment. One day I saw a little "Dr. Gunsaulus declared that fellow, not ten years old, take his us that Sergeant Sallivan, K. C., son Holy Apostleship." Further, that Lincoln's supremacy over a cabinet copy. It was for a poster, three by of A. M. Sullivan, author of "New of strong-minded members was due four feet in dimension. With only Ireland," was subjected to a murderto the training which he received the requirements on the slip of ous attack at Trales where he was during his early life on the farm. paper handed him, as a guide, he conducting a case for a creamery firm "When a boy has learned how to chose, from the case containing the whose factory was maliciously break a colt or teach a calf to live large wooden letters, the ones he damaged. This crime in the ordinafter the unorthodox fashion of needed. When his form was ready, ary course would have been charged the American continent after His the most outspoken), all of which drinking milk, he has learned lessons he was obliged to stand upon a box, up against Sinn Fein. But Mr. crucifixion." This Joseph Smith, be refused on such paltry evidence to

> press. He was so much interested in "The farmers of this continent his task that he did not notice me and more particularly the problems | him his name. He turned and looked say that the gang which attacked me

'Why are you here?' I asked. ' Me mudder sent me.'

'What for ?' 'Aw,' he said, smiling, 'she couldn't do nothin' wit' me.'

'What was it you did specially that made them send you ?' 'Aw, nothin' - just stealin' and

lyin' and runnin' 'round.' "He said all this with a cheerful

'Do you like it here?' I asked. 'Pretty well.'

"As I left him, he went for another per cent. The leaders are bles, a boy about eleven years old, the youngster now has entire charge Mr. Vanderpoole takes up the cud. of this department. He makes really those from the cities.) "Will not other day, the product of his own

"I have come to believe, he said to

hearted. That they are exception-

These quotations are given to emmore here than mention the fact that educational value—of what farm life in the professions, in business, in comes from the country. It is the

That the training afforded by the There is another reason also. In served to bring into stronger relief and the effect upon the boys is aston. pupils that class of school which has developed form. The extensive shops type of rural school, and because of

SINN FEIN AND OUTRAGES

While police and military authorifree. Last week we quoted the correspondent of an English newspaper who gave "a dignitary of the Church" order that their crimes might re-

The other day the cable informed

"Daring the last six weeks I have received many threatening letters, life is in danger, but I should like to scandal of the world. And yet, the the murderer (and his comrades) well contented with its of the Church. The physicians, the at me quietly, answering without on Friday are not Sinn Feiners.

They started to extend the area of their operations, but the Sinn Feiners them out.'

Mr. Sullivan referred also to the 'futile authorities of Lord French." stated that in Cork Sino Fein had doors? decided to cooperate actively with the police in the detection of robber iss and highway holdups. Accordingly this unlawful and lawless Canada as a handy epithet to be society sent out patrols, rounded up hurled without reason or discriminaa gang, and handed one man over to tion at those who in pursuance of the police with all the information their undoubted rights as free citidecision.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Now THAT John D. Rockefeller has given a hundred million dollars to the cause of medical research it will be interesting to watch the scale of

CHAIRMAN O'CONNOR of the Board of Commerce having issued a decree to the effect that the rebate of two and one half cents a dozen on canned goods shall go to the wholesale dealer and not to the canner, it becomes pertinent to enquire : where does the much-tried and long-suffering consumer come in?

In view of the utilization of the motion picture by the sects as an instrument wherewith to attract the into an unarmed crowd in India, into an unarmed crowd in script reminds them that in the Middle Ages the drama was almost monopolized by the Church as a medium for popular instruction. The qualified, in some outspoken, from sively brought out recently by Heary years was the morality or miracle multiplication of books as we know it today was an impossibility. In this juncture the Church as we have the control of the facts of the case juncture the Church as we know it to the control of the facts of the case juncture the Church as we know it is more effective than scathing deciries and the control of the theory of "national Churches," yet they have a sort of "Catholic" sense of the labor program of the American Catholic is more effective than scathing deciries and the control of the theory of the case labor program of the American Catholic is more effective than scathing deciries and the control of the theory of the control of the theory of the control of the control of the case labor program of the American Catholic is more effective than scathing deciries and the control of the case labor program of the juncture the Church, ever mindful nunciation. of her divinely appointed mission to phasize a fact too little appreciated. instruct and elevate, made free use of thurst murders, finding it impossible ists have admitted the justice of his an instrument tending in her hands school so effectively that leadership to so greatly advance her beneficent purpose. The utilization of the industry, in practically everything picture play by the sects in our day The farcical result is well known; society. The moderate socialists of indefatigably, and makes its regular today in England admit that the

gard to intoxicating liquors have being absent without leave!—E. C. R. such as that which has horrified men far and wide in Russia.

farm is a most important factor in the graded school, with a teacher the evils of the drug habit. It may the following letter to the Westmineducation is shown by the following devoting her whole time to one class, be well to give wider publicity to the ster Gazette must be taken into account before recital of the application of farm there is too much teaching, too much Dominion Act amending the Oplum directly treating of the question of methods to city children. The spoon-feeding. In the one-roomed and Drug Act, as assented to Novemquotation is from a writer in a secular country school the pupils must do ber 10th last, and, by proclamation of member how the military murder of much more for themselves; thus Governor in Council, put into force "The Catholic Protectory is, in they develop initiative and self-reli- on December 31st. We reproduce reality, a great school. Its system of ance. Consolidated schools in the this important document from the

> "HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada,

"1. (1) Every person who imports into or exports from Canada any cocoa leaves, cocaine or any of their salts or preparations, or any opium or its preparations, or any opium alkaloids or their salts or preparations, without first obtaining a license therefor from the minister who is presiding over the Department of Health, shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and costs, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or to both fine and imprisonment.

"(2) This Act shall be read as one with the Opium and Drug Act, chapter seventeen of the Statutes of 1911, and anything in the said Act which is inconsistent with this Act is repealed.

2. This Act shall come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council.'

SPOKESMEN OF the Mormon Church (which body by the way, seems today to be making a dead-set upon Canada) once more, and seriously, put forward the preposterous claim that the religion of Christ had lain hidden and buried for nineteen hundred years until in 1829, "the and by actual divine ordination conferred upon these two men the the Apostle John came to the earth in 1827, and delivered to the same Joseph Smith-" the first prophet of recall to your mind the inept courtthe Church"-" the gold plates containing the Gospal as Christ had taught it to the 'other sheep' on it remembered, is the legitimate parent of the polygamy and other nameless practices which later made cult takes root and flourishes in communities priding themselves on the name Christian. Here surely Broadmoor was, as a result of took action against them and drove lies a work for the big interdenominational "Forward Movement," which is to " regenerate and unlift the world. Why waste their energies Some days later, (Jan. 14th.) a in self-exaltation while this maligible given a post on active service in the despatch to the New York Times nant spectre stands at their very

THE TERM "Bolshevist," is rapidly pient departure from the path of true undoubtedly a real evil, but let us beware lest the term be used to confuse the public mind and as an instrument to head off the free discussion of public questions. Let us not stitution the rights of the humblest toiler are on a par with those of the richest and most powerful. Offensive epithets are not to be thrown about without discrimination.

## WHY FUSS ABOUT MURDER?

MRS. SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON'S SCATHING LETTER

killing or wounding some 2,000 of social theory and practice is a real approval, in some cases more or less defended it. This, two or three the Catholic Social Gild of England, weeks ago, was the occasion of Mrs.

At the time of the Bowen Coldirect to headquarters in London. would appear to be directed more to more amusement than to edification. fact that Major Van's honest indig ing revolutionary Socialism of the nation and outraged sense of British GOVERNMENT ENACTMENTS in re. justice cost him his commission for to plunge society into an anarchy.

Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington has sent

"Sir,-You state in yesterday's Mr. Sheehy Skeffington and two others sufficed to turn Irish feeling round to the side of the rebels, and how, even in that time of peril, it was felt necessary to take proceedings against the guilty officer, who declared to be of unsound mind.'

the sequel to that case, and on the Government attitude towards the criminal? Your inference is that the authorities took action of themselves to get justice done. On the contrary, Dublin Castle, backed by Mr. Asquith's Government, did thing possible to prevent justice being done, and did succeed, in spite of Mr. Asquith's pledge to Mr. Dillon in the House of Commons, in burking the inquiry into the various murders done by Capt. Bowen Colthurst (not three, but at least six, according to Sir John Simon's subsequent report, were proved against him) so that the guilty officers were fully shielded from the consequences of their participance in crime.

CHIEF CULPRIT PROMOTE

"The chief culprit, it will be remembered, was actually promoted by superiors ten days after the murders, and it was only when Sir Francis Vane (horrifled by the indifference of Dublin Castle) ourneyed to England, that Lord Kitchener felt himself obliged to order Captain Bowen-Colthurst's temporary arrest pending court-martial. One official in Dublin Dublin Castle, as testified by Sir F. Vane, said, to excuse his inaction, 'Why make such a fuss about Sheehy Skeffington? Some of us are glad that he has been put out of the way, anyhow.' The official in questio bas since been promoted : while Sir ment, for his part in the exposure.

REST-CURE FOR MILITARY ASSASSINS eral Dyer cannot be dealt with as Captain Bowen-Colthurst had been, seems to imply that you consider the case of the former. May I again martial, whose proceedings were condemned as a travesty of justice by every decent journal in England (the 'Westminster Gazette' among conclude that the plea of insanity was proved. The authorities them selves, in fact, showed by their subfrom the consequences of their agitation in the 'Spectator' and the General Dyer), declared 'cured,' and restored to his rank and pension;

IMPERIALISM LOOSES, ITS TERRORISTS

"Possibly all these terrorists let same God, yet utterly at peoples are, strictly speaking, patho- members and influence. Lord Justice Kenny said recently: Every crime unpunished leads to

"HANNA SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON."

NEEDS TRUE RELIGION SAYS HENRY SOMERVILLE

Whatever plan for the betterment of s cial conditions is adopted as a solution of the present glaring injustices in society, it will not succeed unless it is rooted in true religion, and unless the people who live yet unity remains, and has always out its principles are truly religious. Waile the Catholic Church has condemned the excesses of revolutionary Socialism, her attitude toward General Dyer's cynical it not social reform is far from negative,

them, called forth protest and dis. sense of duty to the common weal. This requires religion as its fostering parent. This point was impresonly drama known in England for many English newspapers. Others Somerville, organizing secretary of or more thoroughly Protestant sects, who has been lecturing on the subthe social programs which the Church | probably been no denomination in

can support in the modern world. Mr. Somerville declares that Socialto move the Dublin authorities to criticisms of Socialism, and have action, Major Sir Francis Vane went | challenged him to produce an alternative plan for the betterment of Marxian days, which was calculated

Two of the leading points of the Church's desire in the social field, Mr. Somerville says, are a living wage and a wide diffusion of property issue, referring to General Dyer's ownership, such as is not present atrocities in India: 'We can all re- today to the degree desirable for a contented society.

He refers to the manifesto " Labor and the New Social Order "of the British Labor Party. It contends for a living wage, security against ungainst the guilty officer, who was leclared to be of unsound mind." May I further refresh your nemory, and that of your readers, on O. S. F. C., declared that labor has employment, larger control by labor the moral support of the teaching of the Catholic Church. Mr. Somerville's reference to the American Bishops' labor program was also enthusiastic

That the Church is strongly opposed to both the class concentra tion of property and to the State monopoly of Socialism was expressly brought out by the lecturer. He emthat, in the mind of the Church and of zealous Catholics who are alive both to her thought and to the needs of the day, the proper reform of society is a moral problem, and can not be solved without the aid of religion.

No program for social betterment can have wholesome and lasting good fruits, he suggests, unless the people who are to put into practice the new social regime are thoroughly Christian in principles. efficient practice of true religion alone can insure that men will have the right sense of their duties to the common welfare.

These lectures have achieved wide prominence in England, and are a notable contribution to the Catholic discussion of the needs of the day in the social realm.—The Pilot.

## UNITY AND UNION

It is noteworthy that in approaching the whole subject of the reuniting of Christian forces, there seems be almost everywhere a great deal "Your expressed regret that Gen. of loose thinking which issues naturally enough in the concoction of wild schemes for its accomplishment. The fact that at the present day there should be so many separate that justice (even tardy) was done in organizations professing the Christian name, holding some measure of Christian truth, whose members are in the main sincerely devoted to the extension of Christian teaching and influence, as they understand them, is one of the grave scandals against which all thinking persons feel bound to protest. During the earlier centuries of Protestantism this division was not felt so keenly for, at the outset, the divisions were prinhis task that he did not notice me "When he had finished I asked life is in development of the more device to shield and each separate group was fairly Church," a sect of its own which was crime, for Captain Bowen-Colthurst justified on the ground of nationality, after a few months' rest-cure in just as in ancient times each tribe an had its own deity, each conceived of Morning Post' (also the champion of but liable to suffer defeat and disaster did his votaries undertake to contend for him outside his territory. But and has, I understand, been since the world has grown smaller, and as migrations and commerce have increased, it has been no longer possible thus to confine moreover, many subdivisions have "It is instructive to recall how arisen within a single country, until Captain Bowen-Colthurst also served | we are confronted with the spectacle passing into current speech in his apprenticeship in India, his in the United States alone of two brother-officers at his court-martial hundred or more different denominatestifying to his 'frightfulness' out tions, all claiming the Christian name, all professedly worshiping the loose by Imperialism on defenceless and in strenuous competition for logical cases. We have similar fulness produced by this duplication, specimens operating here who are as well as the discredit thrown on all democracy. The thing itself—revolt haps they too, some day, may yet presentations, has become a source itting subjects for an alienist. Per religion on account of its varying against legitimate authority-is escape consequences by similar pleas. of great difficulty and the subject of much concern.

Within recent years a great move ment looking towards some measure of union, or at least comity, has arisen and many plans for its furtherance have been evolved. Some of these are chimerical and fanciful in TRUE SOCIAL REFORM | the extreme, others bear evidence of deep thought and earnest, prayerful study, but one and all proceed from a false assumption, that is, that unity and union are the same. ly lose sight of the facts that while sects, heresies and divisions may come and go, and while the breaking down of the false barrier erected by them is a most praiseworthy effort, been, one of the marks of the true Church, which can no more be or destroyed that can any of the other of its notes. The Church cannot cease to be One and remain the true Church, any more than it can so remain and cease to be Catholic Apostolic or Holy.

The Anglican bodies, represented in this country by the Protestant Episcopal Church have always retained a little more of the ideal of unity than most of the more recent and while their foundation stone is the assumption of the theory this country which has been more sin-cerely interested in the matter of the reunion of Christendom than has the Protestant Episcopal Church. It has long had a permanent "Commission on Christian Unity" which works The moderate socialists of indefatigably, and makes its regular vention of the Church. The Church Unity Octave, employing the most potent means of accomplishing its purpose, prayer, was originated in the Society of the Atonement while it was yet an Anglican community,