SUNDAY MORNING EDITORIAL

St. Patrick

St. George, St. Andrew and St. David are remote and even nebulous compared with the brilliant and intimate figure that Ireland presents to the world in St. Patrick. It is true St. George conquered the Dragon. But St. Patrick banished the snakes. Even if both stories are myths relief from snakes appeals more closely to the ordinary man than escape from a Dragon. Very few have experienced Dragons, even domestic-ally. Almost anybody is liable to see Snakes. So that St. Patrick attracts universal sympathy as a general and practical benefactor. St. Andrew and St. David suffer by comparison for lack of a popular exploit. St. Patrick excels in other ways. He has left considerable literature behind him, and associated with him, and the national imagination has been fired by the missionary heroism of his character and the magnanimity with which, a native of Gaul, he was able to give himself up to being an Irishman. He has always been associated in Ireland with a heroic period of her history. Naturally the English suppressed the facts. St. Patrick himself says: "My father was Calpurnius, a deacon, son of Potitus, a priest of the town Bonavem Taberniae. He had near the town a small villa Enon, where I became a captive." Bonavem was in Armoric Gaul, the present site of Boulogne-sur-Mer in Picardy, and was later known as Bononia. Taberniae marked it as belonging to the district of Tarvanna or Tarabanna, a celebrated city not far from Boulogne, the ruins of which are known as Terouanne. When Patrick was enslaved he was sent to the North of Ireland near Slemish, within sight of Scotland to which he could easily have escaped had that been his home. When he did escape he made his way south and passed thru England to France. His Keltic character as a French Briton or Breton placed him easily in touch with the Irish by whom he had been captured in one of the raids of Niall the Great. During the reign of Crimthann, A. D. 365, this Irish king swept over Britain, and he and his guards occupied London. He and Niall and Dathi had great navies for those days. In A. D. 388 Niall invaded and plundered Brittany and carried away captive into Ireland, Patrick, then a youth of sixteen, and his two sisters, Lupida and Darerca, with a host of others. Niall the Great never did anything so wonderful for Ireland, little as he may have dreamed it, than in bestowing upon her her patron saint.

Succoth as the Amorican captive was called was named Patricius on account of his noble birth, and Patrick he remains, noble in birth, noble in nature, noble in toil, typical of the best in Ireland, and a pattern for the Kelt in all times and places. The literature and learning of Ireland, its civilization, its government and laws, the military skill of its kings and generals, and the intelligence of the people must have appealed to a man of Patrick's temperament. They had everything but Christian-ity and he thought it well worth the sacrifice of his life if he could give them that. The extraordinary ability of the Irish has not ceased since the time of Patrick. It has frequently been the cause of anathemas in the sister nation. Time after time it has seemed to England that ruthless suppression and even extinction was the only remedy for such racial brilliance. Many English and some Irish even yet do not realize that such brilliance cannot be utilized in any kind of bondage. Such a race must be free to exhibit its best energies. And for 800 years Ireland has been made subject to another power. That the subjection is voluntary in some cases does not alter the fact that the best qualities are not developed in those even voluntarily subject. Like Patrick, the most brilliant have sought to escape from bondage and no country in the world but testifies to their brilliance in exile, whether forced or voluntary.

THE TORONTO SUNDAY WORLD

TOO STRONG FOR HIM



Spring Literature

We are in the mood already to welcome spring, despite the mildness of the winter. But as to the garden seeds, indeed it is none too early to think about them, and to purchase if you can come to a decision. The seed catalogs are so alluring! It is hard to select. Read a page and there is another page and another. And each is so convincing. One needs a large plantation to give the spring catalog scope, and to satisfy the eager hunger of the winter-satiated man and woman.

As we buy garden seeds we let the imag-ination revel in that which the seeds mean to us. We work the ground, plant, water, weed, watch, and finally see the tiny breaks in the earth, then the bit of green, then from day to day the stalk, the bud, and finally the lovely and sweet flower. And all the while we prove to ourselves that it is the man who is willing to delve that can really get most happiness from the blossom.



There are few districts which are doing And then, a little later, the frag- have "the sight," full of quaint and more for their citizens than the Borough of rant sprays branch out with curious tales, altho I knew nothing of more for their citizens than the Borough of Battersea in London. This borough, which lies on the south side of the Thames entered into the huminoss of Londlord Milkman Elec. into the business of Landlord, Milkman, Electric Light Company and numerous other enter- glisten with diamonds, and the happrises with great profit.

About twelve years ago the Battersea up out of the dusty road at the Borough Council obtained possession of a plot touch of the crystal drops, and one's of land in the heart of the district and built a cheek will flush as the dewy fall up every day, and shows evidence of number of small fireproof houses of five rooms each; other houses were built containing two flats of three and four rooms each. Each flat has its own street door, bathroom and back garden and is fitted with electric light A garden and is fitted with electric light. A an altar of incense to Angus Oge. At ings who are met in those undersmall prettily decorated park is situated in the the faraway thought one's heart ground passages, and the scoffeys centre of the colony. The water for the flats cries out, with Moira O'Neill, for scoff, but the men of experience are is obtained from a spring on the estate. In Corrymeela and the same soft rain. content to abide in their knowledge. connection with the gardens an inspection is

held every year and money prizes are given st. /Patrick's Day is but a week by argument. You see them, and you for the prettiest and best kept gardens. The ahead of Easter Monday this year. need no further convincing, and if weekly rents for these flats are \$1.80 for the I wonder where all the boys are you don't see them it matters not in

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St Patrick's Day always brings an thinking of, for we used to sit on the castellated wall of the old Shane's The Castle and look over the waters of that the biggest lake in the three kingdoms, and the fourth largest in Europe, and see all round its 153 square away. folks began to for- miles of surface. Around it are the counties of Antrim, Tyrone, Armagh, necessary to re-Derry and Down. Lots of little that the year streams run into it besides the Bann the spring in the White (which is the only one that runs out). Island. A letter came the other day the Crumlin, the Blackwater, the Main, with the word; "the hedges are in the Six-Mile Water, and the Ballinderry. And you would be surprised bud." No Canadian born could underhow many people in Toronto came stand what that means, for the thorns from within hail of it. A Lough do not grow to hedges in these Neagh Society would be a big crowd bitter winters; and it would be too if they could all agree to get together. slow a process, anyway, growing a It was at a picnic at Shane's Castle. hedge round a farm, on which the sitting in one of the embrasures of the esplanade, that I first saw a new aunt owner makes a fortune in agriculture who was afterwards to play a most in the first ten years, and cuts important part in my life. She was it up into building lots and sells for very young then in 1871, and a bride three fortunes in the second ten years. The hedge would only be becloak like la veritable witch. She for heading off in that time. But what a lovely border for a field a ginning to thicken out and be ready thorn hedge is! In the spring the Collier and Frankfort Moore, and Dr. delicate green buds begin to tinge T. C. S. Corry and other notabilities. the dark brown rows, and gradually literary and musical, and I always see the leaves unfold and the twigs her in her red cloak at Shane's Castle lengthen out into the delightful shoots as charming as the genius of Ireland which the goats love to eat, and 'herself. She had the second sight, which the cottagers pull for their too, and had heard the banshee at Tulstock. Nor does the human palate lykeel in County Louth, and the day object to the chewing of one of her cousin died in India she saw him those fresh aromatic leaf buds. in Belfast, and she was like many who

little hedgerow leaves and buds will

was at

Everybody who goes to Shane's Castle hears the story of the room in piest sense of freshness will rise the modern castle which no mortal uses, but in which the bed is made These are not things to be established

Ireland is nearer the ideal of an equal freedom with her sister nation than she has been for centuries. The cup has so often been dashed from her lips that no one will dare to say the sacramental draught of Freedom has been taken until it has actually been drained. England has had ample revenge for the subjugation which Niall accomplished fifteen centuries ago, and perhaps now the cycle has run its course, and the old unrest will be allowed to sink to peace. There is only one element of discord. We all know the advice St. Patrick would give the brothers of discord. And we all know also how the advice would be taken. Ulster's minority is a vexing problem, which arises largely out of the political party system. Had the Conservatives introduced home rule instead of the Liberals there would have been no discord. Rev. C. Silvester Horne, the wellknown English nonconformist, has pointed out that when the Scottish Temperance Bill required the support of the Ulster Presbyterian north of Ireland members, only David Hogg, the Presbyterian Nationalist member for Derry, voted for it. Not a single Unionist vote from the Presbyterian north was recorded for the bill at any stage. The "stalwarts," H. T. Barrie. Captain Craig, C. C. Craig, Sir. John Lonsdale, R. Thompson (Belfast), Mitchell Thomson and Arthur O'Neill voted "against the government." As long as Ulster is partisan before she is Irish there will be a little rift within the lute. But party exigencies have sometimes undergone swift meta morphosis.

Ireland has never shown more ability in all departments of human activity than in the present generation. Could Pat rick return today he might well be proud of the race he had chosen to lead. In literature Irishmen lead the way. No English writer excels Shaw. The Keltic revival with Russell and Yeats and Moore, Standish O'Grady and Lady Gregory, and those so lately passed like Lionel Johnson and J. M. Synge, has marked new bounds. In law, oratory, music, politics, the army, the navy, the church, the schools, in science, art, philosophy. history, drama, commerce, journalism, Irishmen are nowhere in the second place. Nor have they failed to show their ability to regenerate and revitalize Ireland. The great co-operative movements, the new farming methods, the improved economic system growing up have wrought wonders already. And the old brilliance of the days of Patrick is apparent in other lands than England and other cities than London. America especially shows evidences of the Irish ability and character. But Irishmen abroad have yet to learn to follow the example of the Great Saint Patrick and make themselves at home, as cosmopolitan in Canada or in California as in London, as full of the unhindering spirit of humanity as Patrick when he turned once more from his native land to convert his captors. He warred and won with the sword of the spirit.

Real Fighting Ships

The Honorable Mackenzie King before the Canadian Club the other day deprecated the purpose of the Borden Government to build the "most powerful fighting machines afloat," . e. Dreadnoughts. Being a supporter of the Laurier policy he, of course, thinks we should have battleships but he is horror-stricken at the idea of them being great and effective ones.

The Laurier program calls for two Dreadnoughts, Mr. Borden's three. We fancy, however, that Canadian people will not seriously object to having ships that can fight, now that the country has almost unanimously endorsed the idea of getting into the navy business. Mr Mackenzie King's preference probably would be for ships like the "Rainbow" and the "Niobe," not strong enough to do battle and not fast enough to get away from it. The purpose of the Borden plan has been, of course, to defend the empire against attack. While we know that Britain employs smaller ships for scouting it is going to be the powerful Dreadnoughts that will do the real execution in the event of war. Is Canada to be in the front of the battle or under the bed?

Stand By the Hydro

The railway committee of the legislature has refused to release the City of Stratford from its agreement to use Hydro/ Electric power exclusively. The city wanted the ad vantages of the provincial system and became a member of a group of municipalities which contracted for a supply at a certain rate.

But the Canadian Northern Railway ap peared. It wanted to go into Stratford but insisted upon the right to sell power. Under the agreement with the Hydro Commission the city was prevented from accepting the terms. Stratford wants both the railway and cheap power. It ought to have both, but if it must throw away one boon as the price of securing another then surely the price is too much to

The Hydro Electric means too much for the municipalities of Western Ontario for the legislature to lightly regard the Stratford agreement and it is gratifying to know that only one voice was raised in the committee in favor of the amendment asked for by Stratford.

The same tendency to be blind to their own interests which led Stratford to propose to break away from the cheap power proposal seems to be moving the council men of Aurora and Newmarket to tie up the residents of those places to a private corporation and deprive not only themselves but all those in the surround ing district of the benefit of cheap power. There is no doubt in the case of Aurora and Newmarket that the councils have deliberately deprived the people of the opportunity of hearing the facts in the case.

three-room flats and \$2.40 for four rooms, Monday with the Richmond Bicycle while the houses are let at \$2.75 per week. No- Club up the Glengormley Hill and in memories of Shane's Castle, when body but people who have lived in the district down the long, smooth slope to Tem- I meant to recall some of the things for a certain number of years are permitted to plepatrick, and then along the pleasoccupy them'.

to supply milk for children, an enterprise sate-posts, thru Muckamore into when he took in hand to convert the which has decreased the infant death rate. Antrim, and thence, leaving the Mas- old Pagan. He had already had a For the small sum of 36c enough milk is supplied to feed a child a week. The milk, which has undergone a special treatment of steriliza-to Randalstown, and the great gates know now, Patrick of the Bells," he tion is supplied in six bottles daily, each bottle of the Shane's Castle demesne. Lord said, "that I told no lie; and it is containing enough milk for a feeding and the O'Neill was patron of the bicycle what kept us all thru our lifetime." quantity is increased with the age of the child. club, and was very gracious about he said, "truth that was in our hearts, Each infant is weighed by official nurses every allowing us into the demesne on and strength in our armies, and fultwo weeks.

houses, where women can do their laundry at other times to non-destructive like the dialog that ensues between work away from their homes, more quickly, parties. Those Easter Monday visits "Patrick of the closed-up mind," as more effectively and under conditions of much to "Lough Neagh's banks, where the Oisin calls him, and the old warrier. greater comfort. The wringing is done by a centrifugal machine, and, for drying, the art-icles are ranged on one of the many "horses" which slide into a hot air chamber. A charge which slide into a hot air chamber. A charge afform the specially luxuriant the second pro-bably are still, especially luxuriant in have heard music was sweeter than the bably are still, especially luxuriant in have heard music was sweeter than the second pro-bably are still, especially luxuriant in have heard music was sweeter than the bably are still, especially luxuriant in the bably are still place of the second pro-bably are still place of the second pro-the place of the second place place of the second place p greater comfort. The wringing is done by a fisherman strays, when the clear, cold "Rise up and listen to the Psalm,"

The borough also owns six swimming O'Neills, where the tablet on the tanks, one of which is the largest indoor tank mose-grown vault recorded the inin England . In the winter two of these are numerable generations of Shane converted into public meeting halls, one into O'Brien O'Shane O'Brien O'Shane, like sound of the Dord Fiann; the very a gymnasium and one into the largest dance a repeating decimal carried to the room in London.

Billiard tables are also supplied by the est slades, with their huge, widecouncil for the use of the citizens. In this hall spreading, full-branched trees, the two cents an hour is charged for the use of the shyly multitudinous as you might table.

One of the largest enterprises, however, is ed wood. It was part of our the electric light. The council has an enormous blessed pact with Lord O'Neill fifteen men; we took the King of plant and is able to supply electricity to its that we were to pick no flowers, the Saxons of the feats, and we won customers at 7c a unit, which is much below and it has helped me to form a a battle against the King of Greece that charged by private companies in and around London. This enterprise alone is the source of a large revenue to the district.

Extravagance

Our first impulse is to rule out of court the person who denies the high cost of living. Dr. George K. Holmes, U. S. government expert, has figures to prove that the prices of many things are not unprecedented, but are high by

reason of comparison with an era of low prices in the later years of the '80s and thruout the '90s. He shows for example, that the farm price of beef was higher from 1881 to 1885 and from 1896 to 1900 than in any subsequent year except 1911 and 1912. Other factors to which this government expert refers as being responsible for high living cost are the luxuries and pleasures now demanded as a matter of course by every one. During the last decade the scale of extravagance on which we live has risen equally with the increased cost of living. Dr. Holmes mentions the motion picture show, the there is a very ancient one, and tion, "Gods and Fighting Men." and there is a pathetic, walling refrain, with your story," said Patrick, card party prize, the automobile, tipping, buy- "Och hone, och hone," which might you will get the same good treatment ing on credit and in small packages, buying by well be familiar to exiles from Erin. from me you got from Finn, for telephone and demanding free delivery as some But one must not be led away to the sound of your voice is pleasing i of the changes in general habits, all of which fascinating topic of ancient Irish me." And it should be pleasant to have helped to swell the cost of living.

wandered far away from St. Patrick about Patrick we used to think about.

ant five miles, past the endless fields And was there anything better worth This district can also claim to be the first with their fat, whitewashed masonry telling than his argument with Oisin seneene Castle and the straggling taste of Oisin's mettle when Patrick town behind, with its tragic mem- had challenged his word, and he provories of '98, over the five miles more ed to Patrick his good faith. "And you Easter Monday, which was a closed filment in our tongues." "You told no Battersea owns and operates three wash- day for the general public, the the lie, indeed," said Patrick. There is your music, however much you are praising your clerks; the song of the blackbird in Leiter Laoi, and the sweet thrush of the Valley of the Shadow, or the sound of the boats nth place. And in these lovely forstriking the strand. The cry of the hounds was better to me than th noise of your schools, Patrick." Oisin had long survived Finn according to the tale. "I have a little story about expect the fairies to be in a haunt-Finn," he teils Patrick; "We were but

habit which I am never impelled My grief! I to be stopping after him, to break, when I see the shy flowers and without delight in games or trying to make the world lovely, not music; to be withering away after my for me only, but for all who comrades; my grief it is to be living. come after me. We were all faithful I and the clerks of the Mass books to our trust, and we rambled are two that can never agree. Ask about freely, and climbed about the Heaven of God. Patrick, for Finn of esplanade of the old castle, burned the Fianna and his race; make praya century ago, on the banks of the ers for the great man; you never Lough. And we went down in the heard of his like. If there was a place dungeons and underground passages, above or below better than the Heave and wandered by the waterside, where en of God, it is there Finn would so.

the wood petrifies, and the sticks be- and all that are with him of his peor ple. Ask of God, Patrick, does He remember when the Flanna wer There is an old Irish air to which alive, or has He seen East or West the following words are sungany man better than themselves is it's pretty to be in Ballinderry; fighting. The Fianna used not to be saying treachery; we never had the It's pretty to be in Aghalee; It's prettier to be in bonny Ram's Isname of telling lies. By truth and the Sitting under an Ivy tree. strength of our hands we came sais out of every battle." The kindly spirit Oh! that I was in little Ram's Island; Oh! that I was with Phelimy Diaand toleration of Patrick for the mond, He would whistle and I would sing awarrior, as related by the bards, is one

of the finest tributes of Pagan Till we would make the whole is land ring. Christian. But the whole story should be read in Lady Gregory's transle

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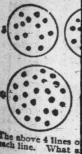
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