

WEEKLY SUMMARY

The excess of births over deaths in the Indian population of the Dominion last year was 273 in a total population of 107,637.

A religious census of Cincinnati has been taken, which shows that sixty per cent of the population of that city is Catholic.

"Crimeless Ireland" pays more money for the administration of the laws than any other country in the world. Home Rule will change that.

Father J. J. Carroll of St. Thomas' Church, Chicago, will preach his seventeenth Gaelic sermon in that church on St. Patrick's day next.

Mr. T. B. Fitzpatrick, treasurer of the Irish National League of America, has sent to Ireland this year \$15,000 in subscriptions for the use of the Irish parliamentary party.

Princess Ena of Battenberg, who is to marry King Alfonso of Spain, is to formally enter the Catholic fold in a short time. The formal ceremony will take place at Lourdes.

The Nova Scotia Legislature assembled on the 22nd Feb. There was a large attendance of citizens, including the fair sex, but no military, as formerly. Lieut-Governor Jones opened the Legislature in person.

Is the local House a Legislature or a Parliament? is the question that is agitating some people. In the United States the parliament is Congress and the State Houses are Legislatures. So we should say the provincial Houses are merely Legislatures.

J. P. McDonnell, the father of Labor Day in the United States, was an Irishman who died in Paterson, N.J., on Jan. 29th. He was editor of the "Paterson National Labor Standard." He was one of the editors of the "United Irishman" in Dublin in Fenian days.

At the North Toronto by-election for the local Legislature on Thursday last, the Conservative candidate, McNaught, received 3,819 votes, and the Reform candidate, Urquhart, 2,518, making the former's majority 1,300. There was a socialist candidate named Simpson, who received 260 votes.

To make the Irish Contingent in the government of Chicago more Irish, Mayor Dunne has appointed Col. John F. Finerty, editor of the "Citizen" and president of the Irish National League of America, to the position of member of the Board of Public Improvements.

English papers announce the engagement of Lord Nisian Crichton-Stuart, brother of the Marquis of Bute, to the Honorable Ismay Preston, only daughter of Lord Gormanstown. The future bride's father, Lord Gormanstown, is a Roman Catholic peer, the fourteenth of his line, and premier viscount of Ireland.

Numbers of Mexican cattle are imported in the Canadian Northwest. Before admission they must be accompanied by certificates from American and Canadian veterinary officers. 47,000 were imported the year before last. They must have some great merit to be so much desired.

Park Commissioner Chambers of Toronto needs nearly \$80,000 for the maintenance of the park system and \$50,000 for permanent improvements for the year. There are altogether about twenty parks, squares, gardens, play grounds, etc., that the city has to take care of.

District Passenger Agent McDonald of the Grand Trunk returned recently from a trip to Cobalt, Haliburton, New Liskeard and Temagami. He is enthusiastic over the riches of the country and its possibilities, and predicts an immense influx of people to Cobalt in the spring.

Rev. Father Albert Negahant of the Catholic University of Washington, is a full-blooded Indian of the Potawatomi nation. There are many of this tribe in Michigan and at St. Mary's in Kansas, who are Catholics. The Potawatamis formerly occupied the ground upon which the city of Chicago is built.

The traditional "Prophecy of Lase-ran of Cashel" runs as follows: "The Church of Rome shall surely fall when the Catholic faith is overthrown in Ireland." There is another tradition in which faith is held as follows: "Ireland will be free when the lamp of the sanctuary swings once more before the shrine of St. Cormac on the Rock of Cashel."

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There were 3,753 buildings erected in Toronto last year at a cost of \$10,247,915. Among the buildings were 36 churches and four school-houses.

Some of the Doukhobors in the Swan River District are breaking away from the communal system of living and are making individual homestead entries.

The Toronto "Globe" remarks: "Brighter days for Ireland begin to dawn. Canadians who for the better part of a century have enjoyed the blessings of local self-government, cannot fail to sympathize with the efforts to introduce them in Ireland. After Ireland begins to manage her own affairs we will hear less nonsense about an independent Irish republic."

The Marquis of Ripon is the only Catholic in the new British Cabinet but there are several in minor offices: Redmond Barry is Solicitor-General for Ireland, and two of the Lords-in-Waiting on the King are the Earl of Granard and Lord Acton. Earl of Granard's grandfather was one of the Irish peers who protested against the act of union.

Mr. E. W. Humphrey has just returned from England, where, as President of the Dominion de Forest Wireless Telegraph Company, he made an arrangement with the de Forest Wireless Telegraph Syndicate, of which the Right Hon. Lord Armstrong is Chairman, to build two stations, one on the Irish and the other on the Canadian coast.

A complimentary banquet was tendered to Mr. W. S. Heffernan of the Traders' Bank at Arthur on the 16th inst. He is leaving to fill the position of railway agent. The banquet was attended by the leading business and professional men of the town. Mr. Heffernan was presented with an address and a handsome suit case in acknowledgement of his many services.

"The Victoria Order of Nurses" of Halifax, N.S., sent out collectors from among the Catholic ladies of the city. We have before us a list of those ladies and what they have collected for the current year. There are fifty of them, who have collected from \$196.00 to \$5.00 each. Mrs. J. F. Kenny is credited with a collection of \$157; Mrs. A. Mackinlay with \$153, and Mrs. M. A. Curry with \$196. Halifax appears to be a good deal of a Catholic city.

James J. Hill, the great railroad builder, is a Canadian, born on a farm near Guelph in 1838, of parents one of whom was Irish and the other Scotch. Mr. Hill's wife is a Catholic and he is a liberal giver to the church. From 1883 to 1893 he devoted his time to the building of the Great Northern Railroad, extending from Lake Superior to Puget Sound, and he is now president of that system and looking to the Dominion as the most promising field of development.

A courageous member of Congress from Philadelphia has introduced a bill to restore the army canteen, and it is now before the house military committee. The official reports of army officers and that of the secretary of war, discloses the appalling effects that have followed the abolition of the canteen. Diseases and degeneration appear among the enlisted men at every post. They resort to the pitfalls that sprang up when the canteen was abolished, and drink poisonous stuff and are demoralized by the debauchery that follows. Discipline suffers, and the whole service is injured.

"In reading the biography of that great Irish lawyer, Judge and statesman, Sir Charles Russell, some time ago," said Mr. Sutherland, "I came upon a verse intended to refer no doubt to Great Britain and Ireland and their relationship, but equally applicable to Canada and the two great nationalities therein: 'No matter that at different shrines They prayed unto one God, No matter that at different times Their fathers won the sod; In fortune and in fame they're bound In stronger links than steel, And neither could be safe or sound But in the other's weal.'"

The pure food law to which Congress has assented makes it a misdemeanor to manufacture or sell adulterated or misbranded foods, drugs, medicines, or liquors in the District of Columbia, the Territories, and the insular possessions of the United States, and prohibits the shipment of such goods from one state to another or to a foreign country. It also prohibits the receipt of such goods. Offences are punishable by a fine of \$500 or by imprisonment for one year, or both. In the case of corporations, officials in charge are made amenable.

There are ten vacancies in the Dominion Senate—two in Nova Scotia, two in New Brunswick, one in Ontario, two in Alberta, two in Saskatchewan, one in British Columbia. When these are filled the standing at parties will be: Liberals 55, Conservatives, 32, Ministerial majority, 23. Of the ten Senatorships to be filled, two each were created for Alberta and Saskatchewan; Senator Fulford in Ontario, Senators Dever and Wark in New Brunswick, and Senators Black and Church in Nova Scotia are deceased. In British Columbia Senator Templeman resigned to enter the House.

The Toronto "Globe" of fifty years ago mentioned the appearance in Hamilton of a Rev. Dr. Murray, a Protestant minister of the United States, who delivered a lecture on "Ireland and the Irish." This Dr. Murray obtained a certain notoriety for himself by misrepresenting the Catholic Church. He had disguised himself by adopting the pen name of "Kirwin." The real "Kirwin" was an apostate Irish priest, who had won a certain distinction in the same way in Ireland. Archbishop Hughes of New York, took up the defence of the Church in a pamphlet entitled "Kirwin Unmasked" and left him without a leg to stand upon.

Unexpectedly a vote was forced in the British House of Commons a few days ago on Home Rule, when the speech from the Throne was being discussed. Col. Sanderson, the Irish Tory leader, offered a resolution expressing alarm at the item in the King's speech in favor of Home Rule for Ireland, which was negatived by a vote of 318 to 85. Mr. Morley, Irish Secretary, defended the Government and said it had received a mandate from the electorate in favor of Home Rule. This shows as great a change in sentiment with regard to the question as the change in British party sentiment. It promises Home Rule this year instead of next, when some said it would surely come.

Ninety years of life in Toronto is the proud record of Mrs. James Dobson, who was born in "Muddy York" on Feb. 16th, 1816, and has lived to celebrate her ninetieth birthday on the 16th of February. Mr. Dobson died in 1891. He was elected first Reeve of the village of Yorkville in 1852 and became postmaster of Yorkville in 1863. A photograph of Mrs. Dobson in the "Globe" of Saturday, Feb. 17th, shows the old lady to be in good condition. She resides with two maiden daughters at the corner of Collins street and Park road, Yorkville. One of the daughters continues in charge of the branch post office at Yorkville, but it will soon be out of the family, as a new branch post office is being built in the locality, which no doubt will be placed in charge of some official from the main office.

At the annual banquet of the Alumni Association of the Catholic University of America the principal toast was that responded to by Charles Bonaparte, secretary of the navy. Secretary Bonaparte dwelt especially on the need of good citizens and the obligation upon the Catholic Church to furnish and train such: "When we find any self-governing community afflicted with misgovernment," said Mr. Bonaparte, "we can safely and fairly believe that it does not deserve a better fate. The question of good government in America is essentially a moral and only incidentally a political one."

Of the growth of the Catholic Church in America, he said: "Fifty years ago most Protestants, and even many Catholics, believed that American institutions and Catholic doctrines were essentially antagonistic." An outstanding figure in the recent Quebec municipal elections was Senator Philippe Auguste Choquette, advocate and legislator. He is a son of Joseph Choquette, and was born at Beloeil, January 6, 1854. He graduated at Laval University and was called to the Bar in 1880. While a student he acted as private secretary to the late Mr. Mercier, then Solicitor-General of Quebec. At Montmagny in 1883 he established La Sentinelle newspaper, and later assisted in founding Le Soir and was one of its editors. In 1882 he entered political life, when he unsuccessfully contested Montmagny in the Liberal interest. He was returned for the constituency in 1887. After taking a conspicuous part for some years in the House of Commons he was elevated to the Bench, and subsequently resigned to enter the Senate. His recent disagreement with Hon. Mr. Parent caused the split in Quebec City which again brought him into the limelight.

To Save Our Young Men
To Editor Catholic Register:
Dear Sir,—Such a subject cannot but interest every reader of your valuable columns. The remedy at once looms up in varied forms of attractions. Unions, societies, athletic clubs on land and water, etc., but your esteemed correspondent, "An Observer," has not been alone in noticing that these cannot yet be said to have touched the spot! He has wisely made a deeper plunge for the root of evil, but has he really got near enough yet to nip the bud? Everyone readily admits the dangerous season of youth is at its height about the school-leaving age. The bulk of our young people are not favored with the opportunities for receiving their education in boarding-schools. So it is with them chiefly we are anxiously concerned. Is there not an influence sadly lost sight of nowadays? What are our Catholic parents doing? Even our otherwise practical ones seem often to forget that they stand second only to God Himself in watching over those young yet immortal souls. Many a mournful message goes out to the priest along these lines: "I wish, Father, you would try to do something with my Johnny. He scarcely ever attends Mass now and has about given up going to the Sacraments." Did such a mother, in

many cases, realize the full meaning of that verdict she would know that no more heart-rending wail pierced the vaults of the starry heavens on the night of Herod's slaughter of the Innocents. Go back with that parent, now really alarmed, over the few years of Johnny's career since he left school, say since he made his First Holy Communion. How about the evenings that he began stopping out just a little later than formerly, and the Saturdays when he came from the games "too tired" to go to his monthly confession that his religious teachers had always kindly insisted on. The "tired feeling," as well as Johnny, began to grow and on Sunday he might occasionally be seen strolling in too late for Mass. The father perhaps used to lose his temper too much when he had to chastise the children, or for some other reason, right or wrong, just about left their training in his wife's hands. Meanwhile the poor mother had scolded from time to time, but never with firmness and effect. Then came the time when the youth started to work for wages. The parents wake up some day to realize that their son has now a different footing in the family, although it never dawned on them for quite a while. Yes, after all, Johnny is now really making himself felt by degrees in the great work of bread-winning. It will hardly do now to be severe with him! As soon as the evening meal, by now a graceless one, has been disposed of hurriedly, he puts on some nice looking suit that he has perhaps bought with his own money. In a few moments he is out with the "boys," for by now he is just about initiated. Some such evening the priest in answer to the message, calls at the house to find Johnny is out and no one knows exactly at what hour—any night he is likely to be in. In fact they are generally all asleep when he does come. Too late, now, poor easy-going parents! Nothing but the grace of God can save your own flesh and blood and the question comes, has not too much of the Divine gift already been abused? It was to the very first time you failed to insist on your son obeying you and Almighty God, in being regular to his religious duties that his fall dates back! Such, sir, is my opinion of the question. Lack of home-training in families of this continent is becoming proverbial. Let our Catholic parents bestir themselves. They must not lay the blame and responsibility on others. The teachers have their children but a few hours in the day and then in a body and under restraint of discipline. Make home life attractive for our young people so as to draw them off the streets at dangerous hours. Limit their companions to the edifying. Stock the houses well with wholesome reading. Above all let good example and Catholic spirit shine forth. Fidelity to training in regular prayer and reception of the life-giving Sacraments has never yet been found wanting. Our clubs and societies will then be patronized by members worthy of every support and encouragement. Although, to my regret, too lengthy in the expressing, I shall ever be, sir, ONE INTERESTED. Toronto, Feb. 21, 1906.

BISHOP BLENK NOMINATED.
The news of the nomination of Bishop Blenk of Porto Rico to the See of New Orleans has given special satisfaction, as the Bishop is a native of the city to which he has been nominated; most of his life, too was spent in New Orleans. His Lordship was born on August 6, 1867. After completing a classical course in Northern colleges, he entered Jefferson College, where he taught three years before entering the novitiate of the Marist Fathers. He went to France and thence to the Catholic University at Dublin. He was raised to the priesthood by Archbishop Redwood, of Wellington New Zealand, in 1885, and then returned to Louisiana. He became president of Jefferson College. In February, 1897, he took charge of a church in Algiers, La., and was later made Bishop of Porto Rico. **NINETEEN NEW BISHOPS.** At the consistory held on February 21st the Pope created nineteen French Bishops to the dioceses vacant through the Franco-Vatican struggle. **AN INTERESTING CONTEST.** On another page will be found the names of the prize-winners in the Diary contest of Dr. Chase's Almanac for 1905. A similar contest for 1906 is now going on, and if any of our readers have not entered, it is not too late to write now for a copy of the Almanac. When writing mention the Catholic Register.

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We would call the attention of our readers to the special offer of prizes to the six persons securing the largest number of subscribers to the Catholic Register up to Easter. This should be of especial interest to the young Catholic, for besides giving you an opportunity of securing a good Fountain Pen, we will also allow a commission for each subscriber. The competition is not limited to any district and though some parishes may offer a larger field than others, every energetic person will be in the running for a prize. The six pens have solid gold points and are guaranteed by the makers.

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