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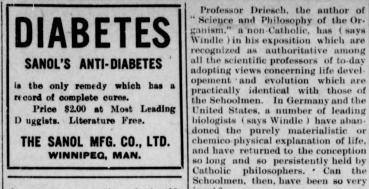
THE MIND OF THE CHURCH

Professor Bertram Windle, K. S. G., one of the most distinguished univer-sity principals in Ireland, contributes to the Catholic Truth library a bro-chure entitled "The intellectual Claims of the Catholic Church," one of the greatest facts that history has as he puts it. The article, which first made its appearance in the form of an address in Dublin, is devoted to showing up the fallacy that the Catholic Church is solely a Church whose appeal is made to the heart, and that it takes no account of intellectual needs of its followers.

We forget," says Dr. Windle, perhaps, we have never known, that the Church has been the mother, and in many cases the fondly loved mother, of more great writers and of more great discoveries in all branches have been the last to claim as his "inof discovery, than have all the other religions of the world put together."

Much of this indifference and ignorance, says Dr. Windle, will prob-ably vanish now that Catholics are given a full and fair chance to acquire a knowledge of the intellectual treasures of the Church. In particular, he insists, 'will a study of the works of the much-abused worthless, the "School-men," or Scholastic Philosophers, disabuse the prejudiced reader of the notion that their age was one of de-liberate Obscurantism, in which the killing of all original thought and research in science was aimed at. The Schoolmen did not spend all their time in discussing such problems as the number of angels that could came to be used largely in the redance on the point of a needle," as anti-Christian writers used to state.

practitioners in that science. What men are teaching now-a-days as to Nevertheless, such a problem conthe properties and potentialities of Urauium (from which Actinium may tained within it another philosophic problem of great interest and profundity, just as certainly as the large be formed, and from Actinium, Radimathematical literature written about | um) was being at least theorized upon the so-called Fourth Dimension (a condition the existence of which no Scholastics whose scientific philososcientific thinkers with much import-to that ef the modern physicist than ant food for reflection. The writers it was to that of the two previous and philosophers of the Catholic centuries of scientific workers, i. e., the contemptible triflers some people would have us believe, and it is ex-traordinary how nearly the traordinary how nearly they approached to the theories which scien-tific men of to-day are coming to be a should have arrived at control of the theories which scien-tific men of to-day are coming to be a should have arrived at control of the should have arri tific men of to-day are coming to be-lieve—theories, too, of the absolute so closely resembling the last word thus far uttered by science on chemifalsity of which the predecessors of cal matters.



the present generation of scientific men were equally well assured.

inept? What Dr. Windle insists upon, in order to confound those who forever harp upon the "obscarantist" charge, is In the respect of the Darwinian theory, for example, the Evolution or Transformation which he is said to that the works of men who were cap-able of thinking out conclusions so very have invented. Darwin himself would close to those of modern men of sci ence, are not to be wholly despised by modern students, of no matter what class, degree or soct. Furthermore, vention." The view was put forward long before Darwin's time, and was commented on by St. Augustine and by St. Thomas Aquinas among others, he emphasizes the fact that these the now well-known ideas of Natural Selection being duly animadverted Scholastic conclusions were those of thinkers who wrote in and, what is

upon. Yet the lay historians of to-day, who accuse the Church of delibermore to the point, on behalf of the Church. The conclusion, therefore, is that ately keeping the minds of her follow hose who deny the intellectual greaters in the dark, never by any chance will admit that Catholic writers of ness of the Church are confessing their own profound ignorance, for the the "Dark Ages" had ever written about this subject. The theory of Catholic Church, from the intellectual standpoint, is, says Windle, just as evolution has been discussed, says Dr. Windle, by Catholic philosophers for much a matter for marvel as it is from any other point from which it many centuries past. In Chemistry, too, the Catholic may be viewed .- Freeman's Journal. Schoolmen, were, centuries ago, forecasting the ideas which in later times

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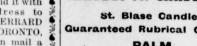
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