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Budget of Hamilton News

(Special to The Catholic Register.)

Hamilton, May 19.—The announcement made at the last regular meeting of the Separate School Board that an endeavor would be made to get the Park Board to do something in the way of providing playgrounds for the children, has met with general approval from Catholic parents in this city. Hamilton is certainly badly in need of playgrounds. Outside of the school grounds there is no place but the streets to play. An editorial which appeared in an Ottawa paper recently just about fits Hamilton's case. It says:

"Ottawa has reached a stage when public play-ground have become a necessity for the health and development of the children. Years ago when the city was smaller there were numerous unfenced vacant fields and corner lots where the athletic tendencies of the rising generation was satisfied—when the foundations of lacrosse and baseball players and athletes of all sorts were laid. But to-day it is different. Except at the outer edge of the city there are few vacant properties, big or small, and these where they exist are, according to law, fenced in and trespassing is forbidden. The boy and the girl have now to take to the streets, or go long distance to the few play-places which exist. Questions of municipal ownership, telephone franchises, etc., all important, but they are not more important to the future of the city than the question of what to do for the children."

It is generally recognized that clean athletics, clean play, go a long way towards keeping a boy morally decent. That being the case, it is in the direct interest of the city apart from any other question involved, to see that all possible influences towards morality are provided. As a matter of self-protection, the city should have play-grounds."

There are parks here for show and nothing else. In the race to beautify the city the children have been forgotten. It is very improper that anything will be done this year in regard to the improvement of the city just as well as the improvement of the children. The Separate School Board might consider the idea of converting the school grounds into play grounds after school hours for the time being. Certain hours could be laid aside and by paying the caretaker a few dollars extra there would be a proper supervisor. It is not likely that the school property would be injured.

CLOSING OF MISSION

The two weeks mission at St. Lawrence's Church which has probably been the most successful ever held there was brought to a close on Sunday evening last. It was announced as the closing of the men's mission but women were not excluded and the church was filled until its seating capacity was taxed. Rev. Father O'Bryan preached the closing sermon and the papal blessing was given. The Baptismal promises were renewed and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated. Rev. Fathers O'Bryan, Doherty and Devlin are the priests who were in charge and their efforts have certainly been successful of good results.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon all the Catholic societies of the city assembled at the quarters of the C.M.B.A., James street south, and marched from there to the church. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated by Rev. Father O'Bryan, who also delivered a most appropriate discourse. He spoke particularly for the benefit of the societies. The St. Vincent De Paul was a distinctively Catholic society and doing a grand and noble work. The A.O.H. was also a fine society. He eulogized the C.M.B.A. and I.C.B.U. It was a crime for any man to die and leave his family unprotected and for these societies were for the purpose of looking after our beloved ones when the father died. It was the duty of these societies to extend the influence of the Church, increase its power and win souls for Christ. A practical Catholic could not be selfish. The reverend speaker deplored the fact that some Catholics many of them connected with Catholic societies, neglected their Easter duties and had not one particle of a practical Catholic about them. These societies should have something in them to ever practice Catholic loyalty and ever practice charity. The indifference of many Catholics to the popular ignorance in regard to the church. In conclusion he exhorted them to pay particular attention to charity, to practice the religion faithfully and to never do anything that would reflect on their Christian citizenship.

PREPARING FOR CORPUS CHRISTI.

The Feast of Corpus Christi, one of the most important observed by the Catholic Church, and which falls on Thursday, June 2nd, will be fittingly celebrated in all the Catholic churches the following Sunday, and more particularly in St. Mary's Cathedral. A beautiful temporary altar was erected on the convent lawn last year and a procession of the bishop, priests, altar boys and people took place. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament took place in the convent grounds. The affair this year will be along the same lines but on a more elaborate scale. It is likely that the Catholic societies will take part. Preparations for the event are being made and further announcements concerning it will be made shortly. A large class of children will make their first Holy Communion on that day also.

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The Late Sister M. St. John.

(Special to The Register.)

St. Catharines, May 17.—Sad, indeed, were the circumstances which surrounded the death of Sister Mary St. John of the St. Catharines Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph, which occurred early on the morning of Saturday, May 16th. Until a week from the preceding Friday the devoted Sister had performed her accustomed duties in St. Catherine's School, though for some time previous she had been rather weak and unfit for teaching, but her active and unconquerable spirit refused to yield to the call for rest and quietness. On her return to the convent, however, on the evening of Friday, the 29th of April, she was simply forced to retire to her bed and pneumonia soon set in and, though her final sufferings were of but a week's duration, they were severe and painful, but were borne with a patience peculiar to the Sisterhood.

Sister St. John had been in St. Catharines for years, during which time she had been in charge of the Entrance class of St. Catherine's School on Lyman street. As a teacher she was eminently successful, and her work in connection with such class was very painstaking and persevering to such an extent that she had sent a pupil into the examination room who had not done justice to the teacher, to the school, to the Catholic religion and to the pupil herself. She was respected by all the teachers of the public schools of the city and by her pupils she was loved with a love which is accorded only to teachers who implant in the hearts of children the principles of true Christian charity and teach them, not only by word, but by examples of forgiveness and of self denial.

Not only as a teacher she was honored and esteemed, but in her visits to the poor, the sick and the afflicted she earned for herself a remembrance to which none can attain save those who are ever ready to sacrifice themselves for the benefit and advancement of the lives and conditions of others. But such, in reality, was the life led by Sister St. John and those who loved and honored her in life now mourn for her, but mourn with none but purely Catholic feelings.

At the High Mass on the Sunday succeeding her death Rev. Father Bench, curate of St. Catharines Church, preached a brief but fitting sermon, in which he paid a tribute to the life of the deceased Sister and spoke of her sterling qualities and the eagerness and zeal with which she had performed the duties of her sacred calling.

The funeral, which was held on Monday, 8th inst., was one of the most impressive ever witnessed in St. Catharines. At nine o'clock a solemn procession was formed at the convent door and headed by a cross-bearer, attended on either side by an acolyte, slowly and sadly filed into the church in the following order: The Sanctuary boys of the church, dressed in white, crimson and black; Very Rev. Dean Morris, Rev. Father Traylor, of Port Colborne, Rev. Father Sullivan of Thorold, Rev. Father Smyth of Merriton, Rev. Father McCall of St. Mary's church, St. Catharines, and Rev. Father Bench. Then came the casket borne by M. J. McCarron, C. J. Murphy, M. Y. Keating, County Crown Attorney Brennan, members of the Separate School Board and P. J. Bench and James A. McSloy. The Mother Superior and the Sisters of the community bearing lighted candles and the relatives of the deceased Sister, Mr. John O'Regan of Oshawa, her brother, her brother, and her sister, Mrs. McKeown of Philadelphia, followed the mortal remains. From the convent door to the door of the church was stationed the pupils of Sister St. John, dressed in black with white veils, who formed as it were, an avenue through which the whole procession passed. The DeProfundis and other psalms were chanted by the priests and while going up the aisle of the church Father Traylor sang the Sub Venite.

Arriving at the altar Dean Morris chanted a Solemn Requiem High Mass, at which Father Sullivan acted as deacon and Father McCall as sub-deacon. Father Bench was master of ceremonies and Father Traylor, who is an excellent musician, took charge of the choir. The mass was attended by a very large congregation and the solemnity of the occasion added greatly to the grief which was evident throughout the whole church.

The Mass completed, the funeral proceeded to the Grand Trunk station, whence the body was taken to Toronto, where interment took place in St. Michael's cemetery. The remains were accompanied by the relatives, the Mother Superior, five Sisters, Very Rev. Dean Morris, County Crown Attorney Brennan, M. J. Carron and M. Y. Keating, representatives of the Separate School Board.

Nor was she, who is gone, forgotten by the Board of Separate School trustees. Her merits had been well known to them and they had insisted upon her being stationed in St. Catharines and being given charge of the Entrance Class and her successful work had not escaped their attention. At the meeting of the Board held on Wednesday the following resolution was introduced and unanimously carried: "Moved by M. J. McCarron, seconded by M. Y. Keating, that this Board desire to place on record their deep and sincere regret at the loss which has been suffered by the Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph by the death of Sister M. St. John, who for the past six years has had the charge of the senior class at St. Catherine's School in this city. That the death of Sister St. John is keenly felt and deeply deplored by the Board, for the reason of the fact that during all the time she had been here as a teacher she has commended herself to us by her kind and lovable disposition as well as by her marked ability in imparting to the girls under her charge the knowledge, both religious and secular, necessary to fit them for their duties in life. That we feel assured that her loss will be felt by all the Catholic people of the city, to whom she was so well known and by whom she was

so highly esteemed. That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to her sorrowing Sisters in religion as well as to her own relatives, who have now nothing left of her but the memory of her good life, her patience in suffering and her happy death.

That the secretary of the Board is hereby instructed to send copies of this resolution to the Mother Superior at St. Catharines and also to the relatives of the deceased Sister.

International Stock Food Company.

Readers of The Register will be interested in the following announcement of The International Stock Food Company as a consequence of the recent great fire in Toronto, by which the company's plant was completely destroyed, on the night of the 19th ult. The Company at once arranged to carry on their summer business in temporary quarters at the Granite Skating Rink, a building containing a large amount of floor space and available for the summer.

During the time the International Stock Food Company have been located in Canada they have found the demand for their line so heavy that they felt fully justified in purchasing a large factory, but owing to the heavy demand for factories in Toronto at the present time, it was almost impossible to obtain premises large enough for their purpose. They have finally succeeded in closing negotiations for a three-story and basement building, having a frontage of 121 feet, on Yonge street, the principal business thoroughfare of Toronto. It is 120 feet deep and will give room to install a plant three times as large as the one destroyed in the recent fire. Their office will occupy one-half of the ground floor, this large space being necessary to accommodate the rapidly increasing office staff. The shipping facilities are exceptionally good and the new factory will be a model of its kind as well as by far the largest in Canada.

While the entire stock of Dan Patch lithographs and International Stock books were destroyed, the company at once placed an order for 20,000 copies of each, and are now in a position to send copies free of charge to any of The Register readers who will write and answer the questions. Where did you see this notice and how many head of stock have you?

Barrie Correspondence (Special)

Rev. Father O'Donnell of Toronto was a guest of the Very Rev. Dean Egan last week.

The C.M.B.A. held an open meeting last Thursday evening in their hall, which was well attended. Most pleasing addresses were delivered by Very Rev. Dean Egan and Mr. J. J. Behan, Grand Secretary of the Society.

A retreat of three days, beginning the last Thursday in May and ending the following Sunday, is announced to take place for the young ladies of the parish, its chief object being to recruit new members for the sodality. Rev. Dr. Kidd of Penetanguishene will conduct the ceremonies.

The Late Rev. Father Tiernan

London, May 11.—Yesterday morning the remains of the late Rev. Father Tiernan, parish priest of Mount Carmel, and formerly rector of St. Peter's Cathedral in this city, were laid at rest in the Catholic Cemetery at Mount Carmel.

His Lordship Bishop McEvay and a distinguished gathering of priests were present, and the church in which the Solemn Requiem Mass was offered was filled to overflowing with a sorrowing congregation. The members of the priesthood who gathered to pay a last tribute to their beloved co-worker, were Rev. Fathers Doherty, Ridgetown, Connolly, Ingersoll, Roman, Parkhill, Corcoran, Seaford, West, St. Thomas, McGee, Aylward, rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, London; McKeon, rector of St. Mary's Church, London; Costello, Sarnia; Philip Gnam, Wyoming; John Gnam, Hesson; Loiselle, French Settlement; Hanlon, St. Augustine; McCormick, Ashfield; McRae, Goderich; Pinsonneault, Clinton; Hays, Sandwich College; Dunn, Parkhill; John Brennan, Corunna; Foster, Bothwell; Hotchkiss, Woodley; two Franciscan fathers from Chatham, and several other priests.

TENDERS FOR COAL, 1904

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Provincial Secretary, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, marked "Tenders for Coal" will be received up to noon on Monday, May 23rd, for the delivery of such quantities and qualities of coal in the sheds of the following Provincial institutions, on or before the 15th of July, next, viz.: Toronto, London, Kingston, Hamilton, Mimico, Brockville, Cobourg, Orillia and Penetang Asylums; also the Central Prison, Mercer Reformatory, Deaf and Dumb Institute, Belleville, Blind Institute, Brantford.

Specifications of the qualities and quantities of coal required and forms of application may be obtained on application to the department, or from the Bursars of the respective institutions.

Tenders are to specify the mine of origin and the quantity of respective kinds of coal, and furnish evidence on delivery that the coal is of origin specified, fresh mined and up to standard of trade grades.

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J. R. STRATTON,
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