

Our friends are the innocent victims of Im-

was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshipped."

Bill No. 177 containing the above extracts has been examined by the Private Bills Committee of the House of Commons, has been reported upon favorably by that Committee, and is now ready to be put through Parliament and placed on the Statute books of Canada. Never before in the history of the Dominion has such a thing been heard of.

The Private Bills Committee consists of 65 members—more than one-fourth the total membership of the House of Commons. It is, therefore, neither a small nor an unimportant body. Its Chairman is M. George Parent, of Quebec. Another Quebec Member, Hon. Lucien Cannon, the Solicitor General of Canada, represents the Government on the Committee. And yet a Committee so constituted, and with more than one-third of its members Catholics, saw nothing to find fault with in the Bill from which the atrocious statements above quoted are taken. Only one member of the Committee, an English-speaking Catholic from Western Canada, has made any protest against the Bill, but in view of the favorable recommendation of the Committee, which included the present legal adviser of the Government, the solitary protest of a private Member is not likely to be heeded.

While no exception could reasonably be taken to the mere incorporation of a body to be known as the Free Methodist Church, it is altogether an unheard of thing, to give legislative sanction to insulting attacks on the religious beliefs of other people. But that is precisely what is being done in Bill No. 177 now before Parliament.

In the past warnings of a similar character to this have been addressed to the Hierarchy, the Clergy and the laity. These warnings have not been heeded. The result is seen in Bill No. 177. Those who are satisfied with this result have received merely a foretaste of what is sure to follow. Henceforth, the watch tower will be vacant and the enemy may make his inroads at will.

A CONTRAST AND A LESSON

Bill No. 177 "An Act to incorporate the Free Methodist Church in Canada" was introduced in Parliament by Mr. Carmichael, a Member of the Progressive Party.

The Bill was referred to the Private Bills Committee. For the purpose of directing that Committee and of making sure that nothing improper or illegal in the way of legislation would receive its sanction, and for the further purpose of advising the Government with regard to the Bills that come before it, Hon. Lucien Cannon, Solicitor General of Canada, is a member of the Committee.

Bill No. 177 bristled with insults to the Catholic Church, not the least of which was the atrocious statement that the sacrifice of the Mass is "a blasphemous and dangerous deceit." But the Solicitor General, as representing the Government, offered no objection to the Bill, and the Committee recommended the House to pass it.

Then Mr. E. J. Garland, M.P., for Bow River, took action. He wrote to the Solicitor General, and the Solicitor General replied in writing. The letters were as follows:—

MR. GARLAND'S LETTER

"Ottawa, Ontario,
April 7, 1927."

"Hon. Lucien Cannon,
Solicitor General,
Ottawa."

Dear Mr. Cannon:

"Understanding that you are one of the ministerial representatives on the Private Bills Committee, and learning that Bill No. 177, an "Act to incorporate the Free Church in Canada," recently passed that Committee, I thought it well to write you in regard to a point that disturbs me somewhat in connection with this Bill."

"I find that in Section 6 a distinct reference is made in the Bill to Schedule A of the said Bill. Turn to this Schedule, I would ask you to look up this article No. 20, which reads as follows:—

"Of the oblation of Christ, Finished upon the Cross—the offering of Christ once made, is a perfect redemption, propitiation and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore, the sacrifice of the Masses, in the which it is said, that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous and dangerous deceit."

"I would ask you in view of the very remarkable pronouncement against the Church to which we both have the good fortune to belong—why this Bill was allowed to pass the Committee and, further, why it should be allowed to pass the House of Commons and be recorded upon the statute books of our country—such an unfair and prejudiced declaration regarding those of our particular religious belief."

"I will be glad to co-operate with you in any manner necessary to prevent the repeated attacks upon us, that appear to be increasing rather than diminishing. I will be obliged to you for an early reply."

Yours very truly,

(Sd.) "E. J. Garland."

HON. MR. CANNON'S REPLY

"Ottawa, Ontario,
April 8, 1927."

"Mr. E. J. Garland, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa."

Dear Mr. Garland:

"This acknowledges receipt of yours of the 7th instant, with regard to Bill No. 177 entitled "An Act to incorporate the Free Methodist Church in Canada" and I want to say that I am of the same opinion as you in the matter.

"However, as this Bill has been introduced by Mr Carmichael, who belongs to the same political group as you, I believe if you were to take the matter up with him it would help considerably."

"Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) "Lucien Cannon."

As samples of the different kinds of Catholic mentality prevailing in Canada the above two let-

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY

In a striking editorial published by the *Catholic Register* on December 24th, 1925, attention was directed to a vigorous movement directed against Catholic schools, Catholic immigration, and other matters of vital interest to Catholics; and with regard to the movement in question in its effect upon the public life of Canada there was this significant sentence:—

"It means united efforts to keep the number of Catholic Cabinet Ministers in the Dominion Government smaller than it has been in the past."

Proof of the wisdom of this utterance was furnished within a year after it was written. Before the expiry of that short period there was abundant evidence that the Liberal Party had been sold out to the Rowellites and the Siftonites, and that the English-speaking Catholics who in 1917, 1918, and 1919 had saved the Liberal Party from destruction at the hands of the Rowellites and the Siftonites were no longer wanted in its ranks.

Evidence of the same kind multiplies from day to day.

One of the recent examples of the boycotting of English-speaking Catholics is furnished by the law passed by the King Government in the present session of Parliament, under which a National Committee to arrange the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation was appointed. On that Committee there is not one English-speaking Catholic member of Parliament.

The deliberate and offensive character of this affront can best be realized by reading the names of the present English-speaking Catholic Members of Parliament. They are as follows:—

In the House of Commons:—Hon. R. J. Manion, former Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment; Hon. Peter Heenan, present Minister of Labor; Hon. J. J. Guerin, Hon. John A. Macdonald, E. W. Tobin, Frank S. Cahill, Charles Gavan Power, E. J. Garland, James C. Brady, Archibald J. Macdonald, Finlay Macdonald, Isaac D. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Dr. M. J. Maloney, C. J. Morrissey, Felix P. Quinn and Robert K. Smith.

In the Senate:—Hon. E. M. Farrell, Hon. H. J. Cloran, Hon. J. J. Donnelly, Hon. George Lynch-Staunton, Hon. J. A. McDonald, Hon. Peter Martin, Hon. A. H. Macdonnell, C.M.G., Hon. J. J. Hughes, Hon. Charles Murphy, P.C., former Secretary of State and Postmaster General, Hon. J. P. Molloy, Hon. W. L. McDougald and Hon. W. H. McGuire.

Although such distinguished English-speaking Catholics as Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, Hon. Edward Whelan and Archbishop Connolly, of Halifax, were in the forefront of the struggle for Confederation, the King Government does not regard their services, or the services of their English-speaking Catholic successors in Parliament, as worthy of recognition, and all the English-speaking Catholic Members of the House of Commons and of the Senate were, therefore, excluded from the so-called National Committee incorporated by Act of Parliament to arrange the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Confederation.

Having affronted individual Catholic Parliamentarians and the people whom they represent, it is not surprising that the next affront to which the King Government has made no objection has been offered to the Church itself. The facts relating to this latest insult are as follows:—

Before Parliament at the present time (April 12th, 1927) is Bill No. 177 entitled "An Act to Incorporate The Free Methodist Church in Canada."

Section 2 of the Act says:—"The religious belief and creed of the said Church is that set forth in Schedule A."

Turning to that part of the Bill called Schedule "A" it is found to be bristling with gross and insulting attacks upon Catholic practises and Catholic beliefs.

For instance in Article XV this is found:—

"It is a thing plainly repugnant to the word of God and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church or to minister the Sacrament in a tongue not understood by the people."

This is obviously a condemnation of the use of Latin in the Catholic Church.

But a much grosser insult is that contained in Article XIX. There it is stated:—

"Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but it is repugnant to the plain word of the Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions."

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

THE SPRINGTIME LESSON

Weary the way seems, and long,
And heavy my heart as my feet,
Yet my pathway lies ever among
Things all lovely and sweet.
Blue shine the springtide skies,
And green stand the hills around;
From dewy-fresh fields doth arise
A glad ecstasical sound.

Lifting mine eyes on high,
A tiny songbird I see;
A speck in the deeps of the sky,
He pours out his heart in glee.
Straight up from the soft green sod,
He has winged him to heaven above,
As though to the feet of his God
He must carry his song of love.

His psalm of joy and of praise
For the good, glad bounties of earth,
The rapture of sunlit days
In the meadows that gave him birth;
The thorn-bush that marks out his home,
And the warm, brown nest in the grass,
And the wee birds that surely will come
Ere many more mornings pass.

Reproven I go on my road,
No longer the ways seem dark,
And I lift up my heart to God
In gratitude like the lark.
For should I not be thankful, too,
And sing Him a song of praise
For the green fields and the skies of blue
And the beauty that lines our ways?

—NORA TYNAN O'MAHONEY.

ters are most interesting and instructive. Comment would spoil them. Therefore, they will be allowed to speak for themselves.

If Bill No. 177 should eventually emerge from Parliament shorn of some of its foulest libels on the Catholic Church, such deletion as may take place will be due, not to the Government, or to its Catholic Solicitor General, but to Mr. E. J. Garland, the watchful Member from Bow River, Alberta.