

**B.I.S. Annual Parade.****FREE STATE FLAG CARRIED.**

The annual St. Patrick's Day parade of the Benevolent Irish Society, which took place on Saturday, was probably the largest in the history of that organization. The weather was ideal, although the walking was not as good as it might have been owing to the mild spurt. At 9:15 some four hundred members assembled at the Hall, where they were addressed by the President, Mr. W. J. Higgins who, after extending congratulations, announced that the customary telegrams conveying good wishes had been exchanged with the charitable Irish Societies of Boston and Halifax. He also announced the receipt of similar messages from Capt. L. C. Murphy, President of the Star of the Sea Society of Bell Island, Rev. W. C. McGrath, formerly of St. John's, but at present of the Chinese Mission in Ontario, and Mr. W. B. Comerford, the 1st Asst. Vice-President, who is at present at Quebec. In each case acknowledgements had been made. The members then formed two deep with the Society's flag in front, and the Irish Free State flag in the centre and proceeded via New Gower and Hamilton Streets to last Mass at St. Patrick's Church.

**ELOQUENT SERMON.**

The sermon of the day was eloquently delivered by Rev. Fr. Kennedy and was in part as follows:—In the unsearchable designs of God all things are premeditated. The waiting of the seedling by the summer breeze is as truly an object of Divine solicitude as the creation of an archangel for in both cases Divine power is exercised. Yet although the interests of Providence are universal it is evident to human minds that God's concern is more emphatic and His benevolence more pronounced in some of His dealings with creatures.

Mary the ever-blessed mother of Christ, was given as an example of one called by God to a position of supereminence dignity and importance. But none the less truly than the Queen of Heaven has every soul a providential task. In the eternal designs of God every soul has qualifications divinely allotted for one certain work. Sometimes by divine commission beforehand, sometimes by history's record afterwards we clearly discern the special Divine mission of a man. In the case of St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland, there were not wanting antecedent indications of a special Divine designation for an all important service and even were indications lacking, the critical records of history leave no room for doubt that St. Patrick was a man chosen for a work of immeasurable import and of eternal consequence to Christianity.

The precise nature of St. Patrick's mission was explained, viz., to unite the people of Ireland to the mystic Body of Christ, the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church as the mystical Body of Christ was composed of all those who received interior influence from Christ. The human nature of Christ inseparably united to the Divine nature defined by the Divine personality was the source of all graces coming to the members of the Mystical Body. Like the waters of a lake conveyed down the hillside to refresh the multitudes dwelling beneath so were purifying streams of grace conveyed from the soul of Christ to the souls of men through certain channels. In the case of the Irish people those channels to conduct the saving waters of truth and virtue were St. Patrick, his assistants and successors. Such was the prophetic fancy of Isaac—"You shall draw waters with joy out of the Saviour's fountains" (Is) and Our Lord Himself speaking to the Samaritan woman said—"The waters that I will give

him shall become in him a fountain of water springing up into life everlasting."

Continuing, it was stated that St. Patrick, his assistants and successors were instruments of this spiritual and superior influence. We would not expect St. Patrick to bring material blessings to Ireland. My kingdom is not of this world, said Christ. It is of a higher order, of a spiritual, supernatural constitution. The richest treasure ever brought back to Ireland by the pagan rovers of the time was Patrick the Briton slave. Not a hundred years from the time Patrick first set foot on Irish soil ships of the same mould sailed from ports bearing on their deck no longer pirate rovers but Christian missionaries to win souls to Christ. No longer sailing away with hearts filled with hatred and injustice they go in meekness and in love to evangelize.

St. Patrick taught the people of his day the lesson that Christ's kingdom is not of this world. That they learned the lesson well is proved by the zeal with which they devoted themselves to the practice of the evangelistic counsels of perfection. This is beyond compare the supreme test of a flourishing Christianity in any country. A widespread tendency to devote the will irrevocably to the practice of the Christian counsels, the prevalence of religious and clerical vocations and the fervour of religious men and women are certain indications that the kingdom "not of this world" is truly flourishing.

The wonderful productivity of the monastic germ planted by Patrick and Bridget was prodigious. The marvellous development of monasticism in Ireland was described. Instances were given of famous Irish saints who less than a century after St. Patrick's death ruled Irish communities composed of thousands upon thousands of monks. This spoke well for the love of Christian perfection shown by newly converted people of Ireland. Leaving the world behind, in thousands they handed themselves together to practise the evangelical counsels of obedience, of chastity, of humility, of self-denial promulgated and exemplified by Our Lord Jesus Christ. Not one hundred years after the death of St. Patrick that pagan people of Ireland had become a race of Christian ascetics. Those pagan rovers who had terrorized the civilized world found their counter-part in thousands of holy hermits who went into solitude to escape the noise of the world. Those ambitious chieftains who never even owed submission to the yoke of Christ's Vicar, imposed by his delegate St. Patrick. That same race which not a hundred years before indulged the lusts of the flesh as pagans now in thousands upon thousands renounced all pleasure to lead a chaste and celibate life. The glories and beauties of this spring-time of monastic life were indicated.

In conclusion he reminded his hearers they belonged to the same mystical body of Christ. They should imitate the example of whole-hearted religion given by heroic forbears. The Spirit of God has not weakened with the passage of time. Loyalty to Faith and the courageous and perfect practice of every Christian virtue were indicated as imperative duty.

At the conclusion of Mass the parade returned and to the stirring air of Irish music spiritedly played by the C.L.B.C., M.G.B. and C.C.C. Bands, proceeded along Water Street through throngs of spectators, up Cochrane Street and Military Road to Government House.

**MAKES VICE-REGAL CALL.**

Arriving at Government grounds the society was graciously received by his Excellency Sir Wm. Allardice. President Higgins in extending a hearty welcome to Newfoundland to his Excellency, Lady Allardice and

the household said the custom of calling on the representative of his Majesty the King perpetuates a memory of 117 years ago, at which period the Society was founded. It was their privilege as the oldest society in Newfoundland to be the first to call in public on his Excellency. He was glad to be able to state that the philanthropic work of the founders of the B.I.S. was being carried on with ever-increasing vigor, as shown by the fact that over 700 people were now receiving an education at St. Patrick's Hall and Holy Cross Schools, under the guidance of the Irish Christian Brothers. Referring to conditions in the homeland President Higgins expressed the belief that by the time the next annual parade would come around, peace would be restored. He had faith that a race which had shown such determination would not fall down on the job of working out its own destiny. It was particularly pleasing for him to note that for the first time in the history of the society they had unfurled the old tri-colored orange blended with green by white, signifying the dawn of a new and unified Ireland. Cheers for his Excellency and Lady Allardice were then called for and given with a will.

**THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.**

His Excellency, expressing himself as highly pleased at the visit on the anniversary of their patron, St. Patrick, said he hoped the work of the great Saint would continue to flourish and that the Society's Benevolent efforts on behalf of education would meet with continued success. Referring to conditions in Ireland his Excellency said he was glad to see in the parade the emblem of a united Ireland. At the conclusion of the address Lady Allardice appeared on the balcony and was greeted with cheers. His Excellency tendered refreshments to the officers.

RECEIVED BY THE ARCHBISHOP. The parade next proceeded to the Aula Maxima, where his Grace Archbishop Roche attended by the priests of the parish, received them. Expressions of loyalty to the Church and respect for the clergy were renewed by the President, to which his Grace replied thanking the Society for the visit and voicing his pleasure at receiving such a gathering. Cheers were given for the Archbishop and Clergy, the Christian Brothers and the preacher of the day. The parade then reformed and proceeded to the Hall. Before dispersing President Higgins thanked the members for attending the parade in such large numbers and paid a splendid tribute to the work of the different hands. A courteous recognition of the work on behalf of the Society by its Vice-Patron, Hon. J. D. Ryan was paid that gentleman in the course of the parade by the Society stopping at his residence when the President extended the congratulations of the body and called for cheers for the ex-President. A similar recognition was extended Mrs. Higgins, whilst the parade was on its way to the Aula Maxima.

**Many Vessels Spoken.**

ROSALIND REPORTS UNPRECEDENTED ICE CONDITIONS.

S.S. Rosalind, Capt. James, arrived in port at 8 a.m. Saturday, after a very trying passage from Halifax. Capt. James reports practically a solid jam of ice between the Cape and Nova Scotia. The Rosalind arrived off Cape Spear at 1 a.m. on Saturday, but owing to a terrific snow storm, was unable to make port until seven hours afterwards. Capt. James reports speaking to seven outward bound vessels. Some were under canvas and making good progress through the fogs. Others were lying-to. In reference to the schooner Gladys M. Hollett, the Rosalind passed her on Tuesday, 120 miles S.W. of Baffin in clear water, and waiting a chance to make port. The Edith M. Cavell, which was provisioned by the Rosalind, is in very heavy ice, but in no danger. Capt. James says the trip was the worst experience he ever had with ice. To get near the outward vessels he spent six hours continuously at butting. The ice was much also extended well to the Eastward, as during the storm the ship was put about 7 miles East of Cape Spear, and as far as could be sighted then, nothing but ice was visible. The following passengers arrived—Mrs. K. Merrill, Master R. Merrill, A. Noah, Mrs. A. Boyles and infant, Jas. and Mrs. Dwyer, Mrs. M. Wyman, Miss Bernice Wyman, Herbert Angel, Jas. Robinson, Mrs. J. R. Bennett, Allet Starr, H. Dickinson, M. Green, C. French, J. Champplain, W. Parsons, Walter White, Dr. Whitman Goodman, P. Park S. Ford, H. Ford, Mrs. W. Ford, Fred Harris, Jas. Cunningham, P. McLeod, B. Miller, Wm. Good and 8 second class. The Rosalind is due to leave again to-morrow.

**Household Notes.**

Sliced broiled carrots are nice mixed with broiled peas and served in a cream gravy.  
Drain broiled mackerel and serve on a folded napkin with a garnish of hard-boiled eggs.  
A quite delicious charlotte russe is made with sponge cake, whipped cream and apricots.

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THERE'S A "STORM COMING"—BE PREPARED FOR IT.

**Largest Diocese in the World.**

The Right Rev. Dr. H. Mowll, Bishop of Western China, who has been paying a farewell visit to Canada, before taking charge of his new diocese, which embraces the Province of Szechuan, with a population of 68,000,000, is by no means a stranger to the Dominion. He was for nine years on the staff of Wycliffe College, Toronto, where he was Dean of Residence and Professor of Church History. The Prelate was consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury in Westminster Abbey in June last. On that occasion, Dr. Coady of Toronto, preached the sermon.

While residing in Canada, Dr. Mowll traversed the country extensively from coast to coast, went into the Peace River District, and even invaded the Yukon. Since his return from England in January he has had time to visit Newfoundland. All this travel will prove useful to the Bishop, as his diocese extends over an immense territory and to reach his episcopal see he will have to spend a month in travel after leaving Shanghai.

On arrival at the latter city, the Bishop will take passage up the great Yangtze for 650 miles. Part of the way is deep water, and the upper part consists of shallow flowing through narrow gorges, which presents some of the most wonderful scenery in the world. The last ten days travel will be overland.

The Bishop, who has a warm admiration for the Chinese, stands over six feet in height, and has a proportionate build that may stand him a good stead when tramping over his extensive diocese. During the war he served overseas as a chaplain with the Imperial forces. The Bishop will sail from Vancouver for the Orient.—Family Herald.

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**How Cork is Produced.**

Cork is in great demand in all parts of the world, the yearly consumption amounting to about 150,000 tons. It follows, therefore, that cork is now a valuable commodity to deal in.

The material is used not only for making the familiar bottle stoppers, but in scores of other ways as well. Cork is used in the manufacture of helmets, life-buoys and belts, insulating material, linoleum mats and fishing floats; and in London alone there are over two hundred firms, whose business is connected with cork.

Cork arrives in England in the form of large slabs, the chief sources of supply being Spain and Portugal. It is the bark and larger branches of the cork-oak which supplies the cork of commerce, and the trees are, in a large measure, under the control of the government concerned.

One law in Spain decrees that the trees must not be touched until they are at least sixteen inches in circumference, a size they usually attain after about eighteen or twenty years' growth.

Stripping the bark from the trees is a skilled business, and one requiring many years of practice before proficiency is reached. When the bark is carefully and correctly removed, the trees do not seem to suffer, and many of them produce cork of a good quality for as long as a hundred years. But should the bark be removed recklessly, the tree will probably be killed. To strip the tree, two cuts are made round it about four feet apart. These cuts are then joined by three or four perpendicular ones, and the bark is eased off by the aid of wedges.

**Trees Improve With Age.**

The first coat of bark to be removed is known as "virgin" cork, and is too coarse to be of much use except for tanning purposes. After the first stripping, the operation is repeated every eight or ten years, as the new bark forms, and cork of an improved quality is obtained each time. The second "crop" is good enough for making lifebelts, insulating material, and the like, but is not sufficiently smooth and elastic for the manufacture of bottle stoppers, which are made from the best grades of cork only.

A mature tree will yield about one hundred to one hundred and fifty pounds of cork at each stripping. The crude material is prepared for market by being boiled, scraped and flattened out under pressure. It is in this condition that the slabs of cork are received in London, and after further treatment the substance is ready for attention by the cutter.

Most cork-cutting is still done by hand, as the quickness with which cork blunts any form of cutting implement makes the employment of machinery almost impossible. As a matter of fact, the man engaged as a cork-cutter spends pretty well as much of his time in sharpening his knife as he does in actual cutting.

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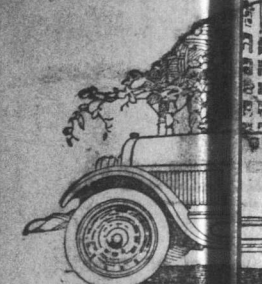
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