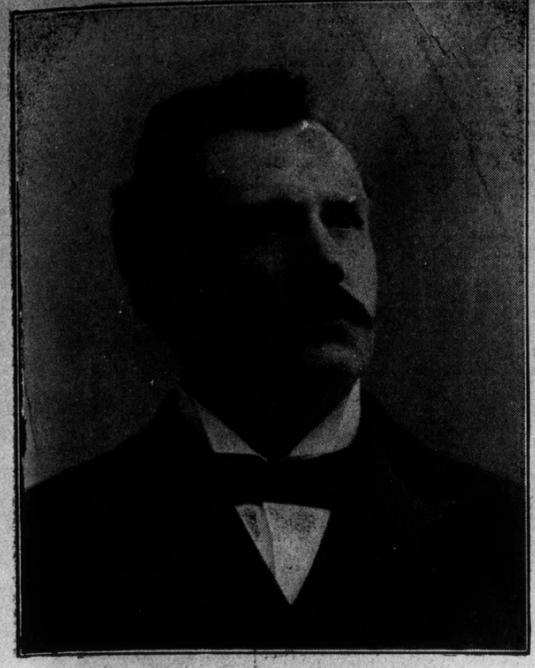


OUR NEW MAYOR.



MR. JAMES COCHRANE, N.L.A.

It is said that: "It is better to be born lucky than rich." The recent success of Mr. James Cochrane in the mayoralty contest suggests to us a slight change in the old saying, substituting the word "plucky" for "lucky," and having it read: "It is better to be born plucky, than rich."

Notes and Cleanings.

The recent success attained by M. Santos-Dumont with his airship, at Monte Carlo, is attracting considerable attention and the results thereof may be more far-reaching than can now be well imagined. According to reports, the airship worked perfectly.

Answering her helm without the least trouble. M. Santos-Dumont made a tour of the harbor and then returned without mishap, to the shed where the balloon is stored. The entire town witnessed the experiment. M. Santos-Dumont was cheered enthusiastically on his return. He made a second trip in the afternoon, encircled the bay and then proceeded a mile seaward, trailing a guide rope. When he returned he again encircled the bay, following the shore at a low altitude, thus enabling the thousand of onlookers to watch the ease with which his airship was steered. A swarm of small vessels that followed him to sea were unable to keep pace with the airship. Upon landing, M. Santos-Dumont received an immense ovation. He said he could have crossed the Mediterranean.

IRISH ENVOYS. — The White Star Line steamship Cymric, which sailed from Liverpool on Jan. 29, had among her passengers William H. K. Redmond, member of Parliament for East Clare, and James Devlin, of Belfast, who are to make a tour of the United States, for the purpose of completing the work of organizing the United Irish League in America. Messrs. Redmond and Devlin come to the United States at the request of the United Irish League of America, which is arranging their tour of this country.

A RICH COOK. — The will of Ari-an Tenu, head cook at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, who died on July 1 last, appointed his widow, Margaret, and Nicholas Chapuis executors. The estate is about \$50,000.

MORE MONEY. — Following the announcement at the Harvard commencement exercises last June that J. Pierpont Morgan had agreed to erect at the cost of over \$1,000,000 three of the buildings required for the accommodation of the Harvard Medical School, President Eliot announced to the medical faculty on Saturday, that J. D. Rockefeller proposes to give \$1,000,000 in furtherance of the great project, provided that other friends of the university will raise a sum of money in the neighborhood of \$500,000 to be used by the Harvard Medical School for land, buildings or endowment.

THE MINISTERS, says a London correspondent of an American newspaper, are going on country week-end visits in high spirits. They have asked for a supplementary grant of \$5,000,000, and if nothing more be needed before April 1, this is a practical demonstration that the weekly cost of the war has been reduced from \$1,250,000 to \$1,000,000. They have introduced a bill dealing with habitual drunkards, which has pleased the national temperance reformers.

IRISH INDUSTRIES. — The Irish American says: — In their respective dioceses the Irish Bishops are doing practical work in the way of encouraging and helping the Irish industrial revival. In Sligo a factory has been started under the patronage of the Right Rev. Dr. Clancy, and is giving large employment.

ANTI-CLERICAL AIMS. — A year ago, writes "Innominato," a Roman correspondent of two American journals, I pointed out the natural effect which the affairs of France would have on international politics. The design of the new power indicated a loosening of the Franco-Russian alliance as being a clerical and reactionary measure, and with that object in view the completion of the alliance with Italy and later its extension so as to include England; in that way to put the foreign policy on the same sectarian level as the internal, and thus to crown "the plan of republican defense" by making it impossible for independent parties to open again the war on the anti-clerical combination.

A LAUNCH SINKS. — A dispatch from Honolulu, Jan. 20, via San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 1, which is published in the Chicago "Inter-Ocean," says: — Private advices received to-day from the Orient give the details of a shocking catastrophe at Goa, on the Mandovy river, in India, on Dec. 3. Fully a hundred people were drowned by the sinking of a launch within fifty feet of the shore.

A QUEER SECT. — It is said that a new sect, having the most remarkable tenets, is making striking progress among the ignorant Russian peasantry in the valley of the middle Volga. They call themselves Podpoiniki, or "dwellers under the earth." They bind themselves to care for all fugitives from justice, vagabonds, deserters from the army, and other miserable beings, whom they hide away in clefts or holes in rocks

IRISH CATHOLICS INAUGURATE A NEW HALL!

ON FRIDAY EVENING of last week the Irish Catholic citizens of Ottawa held the formal opening of their new St. Patrick's Hall, on Maria street. The report which we have read and the further details, which we owe to the courtesy of Mr. D'Arcy Scott, president of the St. Patrick's Literary Association of Ottawa, all suggest to us pictures of the days now gone when the Irish Catholics of this city had their grand St. Patrick's Hall, and call up memories of those times when national enthusiasm ran high in all the ranks of our people here. It has been thought and said, on more than one occasion, that an apathy had come upon the Irish Catholic element in Canada, and that our people had lost much of their old-time progressive spirit; but the undercurrent has ever kept increasing in strength and volume, and when circumstances permit and occasion demands, we find that there has been no diminishing of fervor, nor of united action on the part of our people. This step taken by the Irish Catholics of Ottawa is an example which clearly illustrates our contention, and we are confident that it is an example that will meet with imitators in the various large centres of this Dominion before many years.

A JOINT STOCK COMPANY. — Turning now to the preliminary steps that had been taken in connection with the project we learn that in June last a joint stock company was formed called the St. Patrick's Hall Company of Ottawa, Limited, under a charter granted by letters patent of the province. The capital stock was \$25,000, divided into \$10.00 shares. A site was purchased for \$2,500, and a building costing about \$16,000 erected, making \$18,500 in all. This building is rented to St. Patrick's Literary and Scientific Association. The Association rent the large hall, which will contain between 700 and 800 people, to the general public for any purpose. It is on the ground floor. In the basement there are three bowling alleys and a gymnasium. Upstairs, a billiard room with seven tables, a library with about 3,000 volumes, and a comfortable reading room. There is also a society room, or lodge room suitably furnished, for fraternal organizations. Eight societies, namely, two A. O. H., three C.M.B.A., three C. O. F., meet in this society room, and pay an annual rental for the privilege. No one is allowed into the building, except to attend entertainments in the large hall, or society meetings in the society room, who is not a member of St. Patrick's Literary and Scientific Association. A member may, of course, bring a friend in with him.

The building serves as a headquarters for the Irish Catholic people in the Capital, and it is well patronized, particularly by the young men.

THE INAUGURATION. — The "Free Press" in its report of the inaugural proceedings, said: — There was an audience of over five hundred people. The spacious new structure looked at its best. The visitors made a tour of inspection through the quarters and were highly delighted.

The platform was tastefully arranged. Over the centre of the stage was placed the motto "A hundred thousand welcomes" under which was the St. Patrick's Society handsome banner, on the right side of which was the flag of Canada and on the left the flag of Ireland. These emblems were donated the society by President D'Arcy Scott.

The audience included Ottawa's most prominent Irishmen and on the platform were seated Hon. R. W. Scott, Hon. Richard Harcourt, Minister of Education; Rev. Father McCarthy, Rev. Father Murphy, Jno. A. Phillips, ex-president of St. George's Society, Denis Murphy, John Heney, Dr. A. Freeland, Dr. McCabe, Jno. P. Dunne, P. B. Hayes, Wm. Kehoe, Jas. Rowan, Jas. Bennett, M. J. O'Farrell, W. J. Kane and V. McCullough.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS. — Mr. D'Arcy Scott, president of the society, occupied the chair, and in a short address welcomed those present to the opening ceremonies of the new building on which the Irishmen of Ottawa had been working for years. He was glad to say that their expectation were handsomely

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realized. He hoped that all Irishmen in the city worthy of the name would take advantage of the things provided for them in the new hall and join the society.

MR. HARCOURT'S REMARKS. — The speaker of the evening was Hon. Richard Harcourt, Minister of Education, who delivered an eloquent and interesting address. Mr. Harcourt congratulated the society, its promoters and friends upon the great realization of a scheme they had talked about for years. He did not know why the president should have invited him to deliver an address, but as Literary and Scientific Societies were an adjunct to the education department which he presided over, he thought it a duty to be present, and more than that, he accepted the invitation with pleasure because he was of Irish descent and further he was born on St. Patrick's Day.

SHORT ADDRESSES were delivered by Hon. R. W. Scott and Mr. D. Murphy, after which a musical programme, in which many well known performers took part, was given. The promoters of the undertaking deserve the highest praise for the successful manner in which they have completed their work.

Catholics and Public Office.

As an evidence of how unfairly the Catholic population is treated in almost every country, in regard to matters of representation and patronage, we find a letter, from the editor of the "New Zealand Tablet," in the columns of "Otago Daily Times" of that country. The writer states that he has vainly asked for the publication of figures and the production of name-lists in connection with an alleged "stuffing" of the public service, and of special branches thereof, with a scandalously high percentage of Catholics. After making an investigation he became amazed at such an outcry being raised. Out of a multitude of facts and figures before him, the writer submits the following. We give them more for the general application of which they are capable than for any local interest they might create. Still we learn from them how matters stand with our co-religionists, in far off New Zealand. The letter runs thus: "There is not one Catholic among the 17 chief postmasters in New Zealand. The statement (published, of course, anonymously) that there only 59 employees in the Chief Post Office, Dunedin, and that as many as 19 of these are Catholics, are both absurd. I have detailed lists before me, which show that the total num-

ber of employees is 80. I have also before me accurate lists of the names and occupations of all the Catholic employees of the Post and Telegraph Department in Dunedin and suburbs. They count, as I have already shown, only a little more than one in every nine of the whole number, and only one of them out of a total of 236 employees occupies a position above that of the rank and file. A statement also made anonymously in your issue of Wednesday refers as follows to the chief post office Dunedin: 'During the last 12 months seven appointments have been made in the post office, of which six were given to Roman Catholics.' Even if this statement were true, it would not, of course, prove that the public service, or the Post Office Department, or even the local post office, is 'stuffed' with an undue proportion of Catholics. But the only true statement in the quoted sentence is just this — that seven appointments have been made in that time. The rest is a fabrication. I have had some delay in getting at the facts of the case; but I have now before me the complete list of the appointments referred to, and instead of their being six Catholics and one non-Catholic, the actual figures are six non-Catholics and one Catholic. I have ascertained that there is in all Otago and Southland one permanent station-master who is a (reputed) Catholic. I intend to publish at the proper time some further curious figures as to the position of Catholics in the railway and other departments. A great English writer has said that 'few men can resist the temptation to write under a mask things which they would not say with open face.' This will account for the fact that the strictly anonymous writers in your issue of this morning have dishd up bogus figures to your readers, and inflicted upon them weary narrations, in which the names of persons and places, dates, and every circumstance that could provide the means of testing them, were suppressed with the most elaborate care.

By reference to the D3 classification list I find that, with increments up to date, the amount expended in salaries and wages on the 171 permanent employees at the Government workshops, Hillside, reaches, as nearly as I can ascertain it, £448 7s per week. Of this amount, Catholics draw only £28 10s 6d, or a fraction more than £1 in every

£16 of the whole amount. Yet our proportion to total population is one in seven. An inquiry (not yet complete) into the local Lands, Survey, and allied departments shows only three Catholics in some 50 employees. In the custom (port of Dunedin, including Port Chalmers) no Catholic occupies any one of the 15 salaried positions, and there are only four Catholic employees, all on wages and in subordinate posts. At the Dunedin Railway Station (goods, passenger, loco., workshops, superintendence, and engineers) there are 90 salaried officials, of whom only seven (or practically one in 13) are Catholics. I have further startling figures upon this question of 'stuffing,' but I do not wish, for the present, to trespass further on your space. — I am, etc."

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