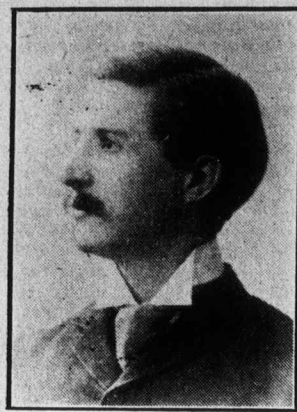


OUR TORONTO LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)



MR. FRANCIS P. CRONIN.

Were it not that the personality of an editor is oftentimes very much in the background, even though his paper is well to the fore, we should not think it necessary to introduce to the readers of the "True Witness" the name of Francis Patrick Cronin as that of the editor and part owner of the "Catholic Register" of Toronto.

Mr. Cronin has the unique distinction of being the only professional Catholic editor in a city of two hundred and twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and has the privilege and responsibility of representing, to a certain degree at least, his thirty-two thousand or so, co-religionists, when he gives editorial utterance in his paper.

It is not, however, in connection with the "Catholic Register" alone, that Mr. Cronin is known in literary and journalistic fields; he is recognized otherwise as an active newspaper and magazine writer, and also as owner and compiler of the Canadian Catholic Directory. As part of his journalistic equipment he is an expert stenographer, tested, by years of tried experience, and he is possessor of one of the highest diplomas in the gift of the craft.

Mr. Cronin is of Irish birth and parentage, and was born in 1865. His initial training in journalism was gained on the staff of the "Cork Examiner." Coming to Canada in 1887, he was for some time connected with the "Montreal Herald," but shortly moved to Toronto, and for some years was editorial writer on the "Toronto Empire." He remained with this paper until its amalgamation with the "Toronto Mail," at which juncture he took editorial charge of the "Catholic Register," which charge he has since held.

Mr. Cronin belongs to no political society or club, but is nevertheless of strong Liberal and Radical opinions. As an Irishman with keen native sympathies for the Green Isle it is not surprising to know that he is likewise an Irish Nationalist, and that the interests and progress of this party have always his earnest and enthusiastic support.

The Irish Race Convention, called together at the suggestion of the late Archbishop Walsh, of Toronto, had a number of representatives from Canada, and amongst them was Mr. F. P. Cronin; not only was he delegate, but he was also one of the secretaries of foreign delegations to that body, and likewise the delineator of its proceedings, and the pen-pictures in the "Register" of that date depicted things to its readers as if at close range.

At this moment when the thoughts of Catholics throughout Canada revert to Mgr. Merry Del Val, who made for himself an abiding place in the heart of the Dominion during the short time he remained in our midst, and whose promotion to an office which places him first in the society and confidence of Plus X., is everywhere regarded with pleasure, it is interesting to remember that on the occasion of his visit to Toronto, it was Mr. Cronin who had the honor of being secretary of the committee chosen to receive him. Again at the installation of His Grace Archbishop O'Connor, it was Mr. Cronin who acted as secretary for the reception committee.

It is pleasant too to recall, as an instance of right feeling and action, that when the movement for the "Boyle Memorial" was inaugurated—a movement to memorialize the veteran journalist and grand Irishman Patrick Boyle—that Mr. Cronin was one of the most active in the attempt to make it a success. He acted in the capacity of secretary for the committee interested in the move-

ment, and opened the columns of his paper to circulate the matter and interest the public in its behalf.

In 1892 Mr. Cronin married Miss Frances Charlotte Boulton, a most amiable lady and a member of an old Toronto family; they have a family of four girls and three boys, and reside at 134 Lakeview Avenue.

Were it not encroaching on domestic privacy, it might be added that Mr. Cronin's home is a model one; one in which all the spare time of the head of the house is devoted to the care and educational advancement of his children.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS.—The great feast of All Saints seemed to have additional solemnity and beauty added to it from the fact that it fell on Sunday, and such a Sunday, one that could compare in balmy softness and warm winds with the early days of June. At the Cathedral everything wore an air in keeping with the festive time. At the High Mass the Cross and Crozier were loftily conspicuous in the sanctuary showing that the chief church of the diocese was in state, while the Archbishop in scope and mitre presided at the Throne. The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. Father Rhoder, with deacon and sub-deacon.

No sermon was delivered, but its place was taken by the encyclical of His Holiness, read by Rev. Dr. Treacy. The choir sang Mozart's First Mass, and at the Offertory an "Ave Verum," by Gounod. It was announced that on the following Thursday a Requiem Mass would be sung for the deceased bishops of the diocese, and on the next Sunday the annual collection in aid of the Sacred Heart Orphanage would be taken up by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

THE SUFFERING SOULS.—The period of petition for the suffering souls in Purgatory was inaugurated by special Vespers on the eve preceding, and by Requiem Masses on the sad and solemn day itself. The number of communicants in the churches was large, indicating that the dead are not forgotten, and that the doctrine of the Communion of Saints forms a vital part of Catholic belief.

It is the custom in Toronto to visit, on All Souls' Day, the cemetery—that silent Garden of God's planting—and there commune with the ones who in life were loved and in death are not forgotten; there, too, the prayer ascends to the ear of the pitying Father in answer to the incessant cry with which the place is filled, "have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you my friends have pity on me," but we of Toronto have never enjoyed the grand spectacle which the Catholic city of Montreal enjoys annually. Last year we read of your great procession to the cemetery and of the solemn ceremonies there enacted, and even the reading did one good. Such undertakings and scenes cannot but have the result of fairly impregnating the air with Catholicity, and those who witness them must surely feel as did the apostles of old, when they cried out "Lord it is good for us to be here."

SERMONS AT ST. PATRICK'S.—At the afternoon meetings of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality, held in St. Patrick's Church, Rev. Father Shulte, C.S.S.R., is delivering a series of special sermons, which judging from the numbers in attendance, and from outside parishes, are proving more than ordinarily interesting. Two have already been delivered, one on a religious vocation, another on the married state, and a third which was to have been delivered on Sunday last, but was postponed on account of the feast, will be given on Sunday next on the subject of "Single Life."

A CATHOLIC CONSTABLE.—Some days ago the columns of the daily press told us of a daring hold up of a street car at midnight, and of the heroic conduct of a policeman, who all unaided overtook and captured the two armed desperadoes who committed the deed.

This capture was of so unusual a character, that many in reading of it scarcely gave it credence; it seemed impossible that one man, even though that man were one of Toronto's brave police force, could face and overpower two desperate characters, who were evidently prepared to allow nothing to stand in the way of the accomplishment of their nefarious work. Yet the arrest was an accomplished fact, and the hardy and skillful officer who accomplished it, is P. C. Cronin.

Efforts are being made by Catholics here and through the columns of the "Catholic Register" to have this deed of daring met with some tangible recognition from the police department, and at the same time to obtain a similar recognition for another Catholic, P. C. McCarron, who performed a similar act not long since; but so far we have not heard

that these efforts have met with success. One excuse for this tardy reward, taking it for granted that it must come in time, is that others have done deeds equally deserving, and yet no extra compensation was given. Even if this be true, it is not just reasoning; because right was not done in the past is no reason why such a state of things should continue. Then again it is doubtful if such captures—captures which require more courage in the performance than it does to face the enemy on the field—have been brought about often. In any case, those in the city, Catholic or Protestant, who love to see valor rewarded are anxious that in the cases under discussion, right should be done.

THE MILITARY EUCHRE held in the Temple Building on Thursday of last week, and the funds of which were to go towards the debt on the Convent of the Precious Blood, was a decided success. Most of the leading Catholics of Toronto who are prominent in acts of charity, were present. One hundred and sixty sat down to play, and the beautiful hall presented a most animated appearance. Mrs. Ross, Mrs. J. D. Warde and the other ladies who had the affair in hand, are to be congratulated.

SAD DEATH OF MR. LONG.—A most sad event was the death of Mr. Jeremiah Long, which occurred as the result of an accident from fire at his home in Whitby. Mr. Long was one of the best known and most respected of Whitby's people at one time being Mayor of the town; and his sudden death was a great shock to his many friends at home and in Toronto, where he was well known. He was a cousin of Archbishop O'Connor, and a brother-in-law of Rev. Father McBrady of Assumption College, Sandwich; and of Mr. L. V. McBrady, of Toronto; the latter gentleman had just reached Chicago where he had gone on business when the sad news summoning him to return reached him. The funeral took place on Saturday last, Rev. Father McBrady officiating at the Mass, assisted by Rev. Father Sheridan, of Pickering. The large cortege which followed the hearse to the Church, and the almost universal signs of mourning—the business of the town being almost suspended during its progress—spoke of the high esteem in which the deceased was held. After the Mass Father Sheridan spoke of the virtues of Mr. Long, and reminded his hearers that the altar at which the Mass had been offered, was the gift of deceased to the Church. A year ago when the old Church was burnt and replaced by the present structure, this altar had been given, and given so unostentatiously that the giving was known to none, not even to the wife of the giver until it was announced at the opening of the new Church. Mr. Long leaves a widow to whom a large share of sympathy goes out from many friends. May his soul rest in peace.

Happenings in Germany

A RELIC FOUND.—"A German priest, named Vincent Schell, while making excavations in an ancient Babylonian city, has unearthed a school just as it was 4,000 years ago, in the time of King Hammurabi."

This is the wording of a despatch that comes from Berlin. The description of this relic is very interesting. It is a small house of sun-burned brick, and occupies a central place in the city of Zapur, just in front of the great temple. It has many inscribed bricks from which the cuneiform inscriptions can be traced—one of these says: "He who learns to write well in this school will shine as the sun." There were seven small rooms in the school, each with its various kinds of bricks. In one room were found bricks with grammatical exercises on them. The scholars sat on the ground and traced the signs on the soft bricks. Thumb marks of the teacher are found where he corrected errors. There was a room wherein higher scholars learned to write the highly poetical forms of adulation so often seen on Babylonian monuments. Much importance was attached to the learning of weights and measures, to arithmetic and geometry, but the chief branches were grammar, writing, and poetry. It is clear that the girls got about the same education as the boys. Father Schell found contracts in which the language and law had been revised by a learned woman named Amatbaon. There is also proof that a pupil took from seven to fourteen years to make a full course of study. Again it is the Catholic priest who unearths the past for the benefit of the future.

Our Catholic Press And Those Who Criticize It.

When we write these head-words, I do not mean to talk about those, who are naturally opposed to us, especially to those of our Catholic press, those of our countrymen, who do not partake with us in the same religious belief—I intend to address my words to the men in our own camp, who criticize with more or less or no right even, our Catholic papers. It is, no doubt, easier to destroy, than to build up, to criticize than to correct, as man is more prone and able to judge the action of his fellowman than his own. If those men had to run one of the papers, they persecute with their criticisms, they surely would judge otherwise about the articles, children of their own brains, and they would be surprised to find out that their readers dare have quite another judgment about them, as themselves. Strange to say many of those torturers of a poor, struggling editor never gave him a helping hand, never paid a cent as subscription, or in any other way to aid him in his noble fight for the Catholic cause.

Many of them do not see the necessity of a Catholic press at all. What do we need a paper, for to propagate our faith—it is not enough that we get our religious instruction from the pulpit? First of all, my friend, the paper does not take the place of the pulpit for those, who gather around the latter and receive their religious information. But there are so many who are not in reach of the pulpit orator and have nevertheless sore need of instruction. Further, our faith and its morals cut so deeply in the affairs of public life that in so many places the interests of our religion and public life meet—be it friendly or antagonistic—and in those cases a public statement, a public explanation is needed, which can only be given by the press.

Now among those who admit the necessity of having a Catholic press, and wish to see it flourish we find so many that do just the contrary of encouraging it, they criticize everything and everywhere. The shape does not please them, then the print is not according to the eyes of every reader, the articles are not as they should be, the English is not according to latest standard of literature, and then last, not least, the opinions expressed do not suit every one of the readers. Many of those complaints are unjust; first of all, they simply are nothing but the expression of a cranky disposition, which likes to criticize, to minimize whatever another man does. You can not expect every man to have your own opinion. An editor might be a man of sound judgment, but if you expect him to express always and every time your own thoughts you forget that human brains are quite different, and that the personality of every man allows him to look upon a thing otherwise than his neighbor. Further, how can you demand that the editor puts in every time just the things you like, since there are thousands of people besides you who have quite another taste. I dare say, that our Catholic papers have generally more solid reading matter than any other paper in the country—outside of the news of course. We cannot give in a weekly, news fresh and warm off the telegraph—quite naturally. Further the tendency of our papers does not allow us to fill our pages with all kinds of nonsense, as we find in our dailies.

But we can give you a resume of a week's events—political and social—with the necessary comments. If you complain about articles wanting the literary value or the clearness of judgment, as you understand it, or the authorship of a great name, remember with what difficulties a well-meaning editor has to struggle to keep his paper afloat.

To run a paper—a Catholic paper, as well as any other one—is a question of money, sorry to say it. Now you know very well how the money comes in there. There is certainly a proportion between the quality of the paper and the money it has. The more subscribers, the higher and the more lucrative are the advertisements in consequence the better is the financial standard of the paper, we can make improvements, get good co-operators, and raise thus the quality of our publication. Now, my dear friend, make once an examination of conscience. You are a Catholic, you admit that we need a Catholic paper, that this paper can do a great deal of good for our holy religion. No doubt you are obliged to work for the interest of your faith, it is your sacred duty to aid the Catholic press, for you do not need have a prophetic eye to see that the time will come when we will need our Catholic press absolutely, to resist the attacks on our holy religion, and everything we hold sacred. I do not mean to say, that now our papers are a luxury, are not necessary; you know that there are many things now, not so as they ought to be concerning the position we Catholics hold in our country. Therefore, you must help, it is your sacred duty.

You critics do not give life to our paper; you criticized this paper for instance, and you never subscribed to it. You could help us by giving us some advertisements—you give hundreds of dollars every year to the non-Catholic press—and for your own you have no dollar to spare. Nevertheless, you call yourself a good Catholic; you fulfill all your religious duties; but here, my friend, you neglect one. Remember we have to bring sacrifices for our holy religion; and this I ask from you is a very small one.

Therefore do your duty in this line too. It is easy to criticize; but we do not need criticism, but your help.—Rev. Father Prim, in New Orleans Morning Star.

THE LESSONS OF THE NEWS.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.—Convent of the Sacred Heart at Netighan, N. S., was destroyed by fire Sunday.

CONSISTORIES.—A note from Rome says the Consistories have been fixed for the 9th and 12th inst.

A NEW VENTURE.—A hotel for Catholic women has been opened in New York. In its present quarters it will accommodate thirty women. It is not a charitable institution, but aims to supply all the protection and surroundings of a Catholic family to self-supporting young women.

TAMMANY WON.—The contest for supremacy of civic government of New York is over, and the nominee of Tammany is victorious. The daily press of that city—that is the section which claims to count its circulation by the hundreds of thousands, was bitterly opposed to the Tammany candidate.

EXIT COMBES.—According to the Paris "Figaro" Prime Minister Combes has decided to retire. Even he would have retired some time ago only that he feared to thereby compromise the passing of the budget in the Chamber of Deputies. By Christmas he will go out of his own free will, if he be not forced by an adverse vote to resign sooner.

TEMPERANCE CAUSE.—"During my travels through Europe," said Archbishop Ireland, recently, "I have discovered that the war against alcohol is spreading through every country on that continent. There is not a single country in Europe today that does not have its annual congress of anti-alcoholic workers, and these congresses are made up of the best physicians and the leading thinkers of each and every country."

CHRISTIAN BROTHER DEAD.—After a long life, thirty years of which were devoted to the Christian education of youth, Brother Peter, a member of the Order of the Christian Brothers, died at Martinez, Cal., the other day. For years the deceased had taught literature and rhetoric at St. Mary's College and St. Joseph's Academy. Years ago he contributed articles in prose and verse to the pages of the "Monitor." He was a native of Kildare, Ireland.

DRINKING MEN MUST GO.—

Eighteen trainmen—thirteen brakemen and five conductors—were discharged from the service of the Nickel Plate Railroad, recently, because of their disregard of Rule Number 108, which prohibits the use of intoxicating liquor by the employees. Not long since, Superintendent Johnson issued an order stating that some of the men disregarded the rule, and would have to obey it or take the consequences. From the fact that the axe fell on the neck of eighteen of them afterward, the supposition is that they believed they could disregard the rule with impunity.

CATHOLIC SPIRIT.—The so-called ex-priest Ruthven made an attempt to deliver his scandalous lectures in Carlisle the other day, says an exchange, but met with an unpleasant reception. Copies of the Catholic Truth Society's pamphlet "Ruthven v. De Bom" were circulated, and handbills were issued offering \$50 to the Infirmary if he could disprove any of the statements made therein in reference to his career. About a hundred members of the Catholic Young Men's Society and others went in a body to the County Hall, where his meetings were to be held, and sang Catholic hymns. Ruthven was not listened to when he tried to speak, and finally the police cleared the hall.

A WARNING NOTE.—In remarks made recently at Dundalk, His Eminence Cardinal Logue said:—"There are followers of Combes even in this country. We had an example of it lately, and in a place where you would least expect it. The only university in Ireland in which Catholics can receive Degrees held a Convocation of its Graduates a few days ago, and it was simply a saturnalia of anti-Catholic bigotry. It was an object lesson to us of what a terrible condition we are in, when at this, the only place we can send our young men to obtain degrees and qualify themselves for the various walks of life—we have an attempt made at beginning the work aimed at by M. Combes."

CARNEGIE IN IRELAND.—This American millionaire, who is devoting no small share of his millions to endowing public libraries in various cities, was recently honored by having conferred upon him the freedom of the city of Waterford in recognition of his gift to a public library for that city. Mr. Carnegie, in acknowledging the compliment, said there were signs that Ireland would soon again become a princess amongst the sister nations.

Another report of Mr. Carnegie's millionaire munificence says:—"Andrew Carnegie, before embarking at Queenstown, Ireland, on the steamer Cedric for New York, contributed \$5,000 to help to purchase an organ for the Catholic Cathedral at Queenstown."

Catholic Endeavor In Switzerland.

From distant lands the lessons of a practical and enthusiastic public spirit in Catholic ranks, comes to us frequently. In the following note which we have taken from the "Messenger" magazine will be found striking evidences of the endeavors of Catholics of Switzerland in all departments of religious and social endeavor. It is as follows:—

These have become very influential, especially since their reorganization. The Catholic Society of Switzerland has 35,000 members. Its work is concerned with interior missions and patronages. Three thousand persons have found through it homes or asylums within recent years. It aids with money and publications the Catholic Society of Education, amongst whose objects are the formation of associations of Christian Mothers and the procuring of spiritual exercises for teachers. The Catholic Society aids, also, teachers' associations, the Society of the Catholic Youth of Switzerland and the work of Student Patronage, which aims at assisting ambitious and needy students. The purpose of the great society, Caritas, is the work of Christian charity. This society is as active in its own line as the Catholic Society is. It has patronages for children, servants, drunkards, nurses, etc. In Eastern Switzerland the Catholic Society has founded homes for abandoned children, deaf-mutes, young men and girls in commercial establishments, etc. There is a Society for the Diffusion of Good Books, which also interests itself in pacifying quarrels; also a Society of Catholic Statistics, etc. As the "Osservatore Romano" observes, "the field covered by all these societies is immense."

MORE NOTES FROM THE

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

FINE WEATHER is for it is the same in 1898. Ottawa. The real Indian on, and it seems almost as if the legislators of the have spent a damp, agreeable summer here that the days are getting spring-like feeling that the Canadian autumn. Lightful, they are all a city is like its old self. Parliament Buildings deserted castle of medieval. Yet there is considerable activity in the Canadian circles; but it is all like—just as when after house of the individual assumes its olden and gay.

A FINE LECTURE.—Mr. Ed. Mahon, one of the leading barristers and Canada's most famous gave a very delightful lecture in St. Patrick's Hall, leaving Ottawa to take a trip South, and it is only he may establish himself in California. But this decided matter. However, the lecture took the form of a "Trial by Jury," and his long experience, of years in both the civil courts, his lecture proved instructive, as well as entertaining affair. He also made magnificent selections of consisting of classic music, and original compositions, the entertainment the loss to Ottawa, by his departure, the more serious. He is a charming musician, lawyer, and an eloquent. And when one man can do these in his own person, no question as to the entertainment that he

RELIGIOUS NOTES.—Mother Provincial of the Order of Notre Dame, who has her quarters at the Gloucester street convent, returned this morning on a tour of inspection in the United States. She left on a tour of inspection of the Order in Brockville, Cornwall, points throughout Ontario. On November 3rd she was present at the feast of St. Charles.

A beautiful statue of St. Charles has been added to the Gloucester street convent. It is the generous gift of a gentleman who makes an addition to that institution.

For November 12th, in Church, Baywater, Mr. Caffrey, formerly of Montreal, director of the choir, has for a sacred concert, in a St. Vincent de Paul's Society parish. Amongst those who have been invited to take part are the Miss Louise Baldwin, soprano, St. Patrick's Church; Mrs. M. J. Mahon, soloist of St. Joseph's Church; Father T. P. O'Connor; Messrs. John P. Caldwell, J. A. Casey, E. Geo. Andouin, and Professor of the Sacred Heart Church anticipated that the concert one of the best ever given. Prof. McCaffrey has an enviable reputation for his choir-leader since he came Capital.

REWARDS.—A pleasing place last Tuesday, at a meeting of the Humane Society, when Mayor Cook presented Amy Ritchie with the certificate of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for her heroism in saving the life of a rough in the St. Lawrence. The story is thus told in the report of the event:—

"Miss Burroughs and Miss were bathing in the river