ALL STREET

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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1916

SASKATCHEWAN SCHOOLS

In referring last week to the editorial of the Toronto Daily News on Saskatchewan Schools we pointed out the regrettable assumption that Separate schools as such intensified if they did not cause the undesirable conditions, where such exist, due to bilingualism.

But The News is not fully informed of the facts of the school situation in Saskatchewan. These do not justify its charge that " the Scott Government is compelling people to support Minority Schools, which is soft-headed complaisance gone mad."

The Autonomy Act made no change courts have always held that where school was Protestant.

Decisions of Regina and Prince Albert Superior Court Judges during Premier Haultain's time always enforced this interpretation of school Lembarg, also decided that a non-Catholic who wished to avoid a 20. mill Public school rate had not the right to support the Catholic Separate school.

This case suggests the probable reason why the matter has never been left to the option of the ratepavers. Irrespective of religion there are tax-dodgers who would if they could escape the increased taxation, necessary at times in all classes of schools, due to the erection and equipment of new school buildings. In a new and rapidly developing country this would obviously be a matter of greater importance than in the older provinces.

But in the matter of Indee McLorg's decision itself only s garbled account seems to have reached Ontario. Judge McLorg's opinion is very far from justifying the one-sided liberty enjoyed in Ontario where a Protestant, even if he have a Catholic wife, is not free to pay his school-tax to the Separate school which his Catholic children actually attend.

The McLorg judgment gives full freedom to both sides to support the school of their choice. There are places in Saskatchewan where CatholiceSeparate schools would benefit very materially if such complete freedom prevailed. The strongest opposition to such a change, (for Judge McLorg's decision was a change), would not come from Cath-

When Premier Scott declares that a certain clerical agitator in Sasbatchewan resorts "to the antics of s easily be that both The News and probably knows both the men and conditions of Saskatchewan better then The News knows them ; just as The News knows school conditions in Ontario better than writers elsecises Premier Scott.

difficulties.

VOCATIONS

Such a book as "The Workers Are Few," by Father Paola Manna, seems timely and necessary to stir up the dormant activities of the young generation, and bring before their minds the fact that they have a duty to perform in sharing with others the blessings and benefits which God has bestowed on them. We do not know why it is, but we have often marvelled at the lack of workers in the vineyard of the Lord. Everywhere there is a crying need for priests; it is the sad wonder that comparatively so few young men are now carried away by the attractions of such an exalted calling. Of course they cannot enter God's service without being called, but is not the call more frequent than the answer? How many strive to silence and stifle His call? We have dropped into a noisily deceptive world, a world of clamor and glamour. The listening for the divine whisper requires mortifying effort; instead precocious grabbing of self-satisfaction deludes into hunger for much wealth and enjoyment. Money to spend is the will o' the wisp: not unfrequently still is the morass the end of the blind running. Are the worldly prospects that dazzle so many so very finely plain, cheap selves; for only by reliable?

Experience is quick to answer-No! And the young man finds out all too quickly that he is not sure of remaining his own unsullied, happy self while making his trial of the world.

For some it can be so: but it is

surest for those who, having heard the Divine call, are firm in following it. God takes care of His own, even whatever with regard to freedom of should He leave them long here to choice in the matter of schools. No await His coming. The older good such option existed either before or priests become the sunnier they since the passing of the Autonomy usually appear. There often is a Act. With the single exception of fresh sweetness about such venerthe decision of Judge McLorg the able souls that makes one forget their age. Indeed, it might well there was a Catholic Separate school seem incongruous to count the few Catholic tax payers were not free to earthly years of servants of God who transfer their taxes to the Public are so visibly going to live forever. school; nor were non-Catholics free We have the most striking example to support Catholic Separate schools. in the young man of the Gospel. And similarly where the Separate His beauty of character made the Master look on him with love. But he had wealth-and clung to it. So, when he heard what the heavenly vocation implied, he turned and went away sad. Sad, truly and sorlegislation. Judge Farrell, in 1912, at rowful, for a little dross to leave Him Who had the words of eternal life, Whose love was already the reward exceeding great. Nothing has ever been able to remove the gloom that settled down on the unrecorded fate of that unhappy youth whose worldly shackles kept him from following the Lord. The gloom involves even the countless souls whom he might have salutarily influenced, had he, like the poor fishermen of Galilee, left all and clung to

WITH MODERATION

the Saviour of the World.

constantly astonishing to us than the reiteration. goodness of bad people-unless it is the badness of good people. For the bad continue to be good in spots; and the good who happily are grow ing more numerous as the world grows older continue to show badness in spots; but their badnesses are so sandwiched in among their virtues that very often they themselves mistake sin for righteousness.

When an earnest person throws himself heart and soul into reforming his world intolerance may grin at us over his prayer-book. We all know how such reformers talk. They say practically : "We are right : If you don't agree with us it follows as a mere matter of logic that you they may add: 'We'll make you

agree with us to save your soul." But sometimes the reformer not brings about an actual increase in crime. Some good people see the way to Heaven so clearly and so demagogue," The News might recall beautifully across this weary, workthe fact that it has sometimes felt ing world that they are consumed called upon to characterize clerical with eagerness and anxiety to make of sense of proportion that has not agitation in school matters in other people walk in this path of been characteristic of some of the equally forcible terms. It may peace. "My bread of life must be minor crazes of the past. Only to Premier Scott are right. Mr. Scott know what is good for your soul, beours." And so they expect us to be which we may deduce that in rewhere who have criticised The aducate than prohibit, for persecu- being seen. In regard to many of Daily News as harshly as it now critition never convinced the persecuted. the newer crazes such excuses are up to the spirit as well as the letter in reform movements : it is not so most of them. People, nowadays, of the British North America Act and easy to detect it in the good indivious live up to the times, to the

'good": on the contrary most of us get down on our knees once a week and declare that we are "miserable sinners." Yet we don't often specify our sins to ourselves : we are simply righteous overmuch. Parents trying their best to make their children good sometimes take steps which may encourage insincer ity and hypocrisy or make them actual lawbreakers-which last is perhaps, the least bad of the possibilities. When young people who are no longer children are forced into behaviour thought to be right by their parents, they are in moral straight-jackets and nothing is gained for them in character. If only force takes a boy to church, church won't do much for him. Granting a certain amount of calm, straight-fromthe · shoulder advice from their elders youth must be good with its own goodness, or else it will not be good at all. The man who forces i round peg into a square hole because a square hole is his own idea of right living is really ruining instead of

REMEMBRANCE

forming character. People must be

good with their own goodness-they

must work out their own salvation,

they must be ever their own poor,

being real can they finally be good.

As time goes on and we go with itmore rapidly than we like -it becomes necessary to cling to the remembrance of a few things and to let go a great many others. The mind-the average mind—has not room enough to hold all that has been learned, observed, experienced in the course of a lifetime. And the first things to forget are the failures, the disappointments, the crumbling of our knocks dealt us in the jostling concourse of the broad highway.

The things to remember are the portion from the beginning; the pleasant smile, the kind affection, the thought that was taken for us even when we took no thought for ourselves, the sympathatic understanding that outran our own and found an excuse for all our shortcomings.

Let us drop out of sight and out of mind all that there is in the past that | the heat and the toil of the day. may prevent us from doing our best with the present. There is too much put into our hands to do, with each new day, to make it safe and wise or us to brood upon bygones. Whatever we bear in mind out of the past and now to think about. We may example of one who is no longer with us in the physical presence, to model our lives upon that pattern; but to grieve merely to make a luxury of sorrow does not help us and

does not help the needy world. Let us not keep before us the bogey of a past mistake that cannot now be helped. History may repeat itself gravity is in another world. As we go on in life nothing is more if it so desires; it does not need our

The thing fo out looking back, and if we do not like the melancholy aspect of to-day, to-morrow is before us with the sunrise just as new for us as ever. The hand of yesterday has no hold on the immediate hour.

FADS

It may be said that the slavish following of a fad or fashion is no new thing, and has long been an attribute of human nature. The savage tries to be as like the other members of his tribe as far as is possible; we have all lived through strange cults, as, for instance, when are wrong. If circumstances permit halfof society posed as being artistic and aesthetic; or when every one careered about on bicycles; or when everyone when travelling inundated only fails to reform, but he also their friends with picture post cards. These fads have passed and other things have arisen in their stead. But in the present manifestations of the imitative instincts there is to be your bread of life," they say. "We take the phases cited, they had at least the justification of being a recause we know what is good for volt against the ugly and commonplace in daily surroundings, of haveverything they are not : from all of ing introduced a new form of healthy locomotion, of showing to those at forming other people it is better to home some of the wonders that were

Not that any of us call ourselves can only hops that others won't see the imitation. Are they any happier when they have attained to the colorable imitation of the fetish that has been set up? It is too often a case of the last state being worse than the first, and all this must be very disheartening when people think they are just getting into the swim! This deire to go with the crowd indicates the failing of the power to think for one's self. " It is manic forces now in the Balkans will, great wisdom and high perfection to esteem nothing of ourselves, and to think always well and highly of others," said the most famous of all Albania is intended to occupy the the mystics, but that is precisely the reverse of the point of view of the modern individualist, who wants always to be able to think more of self and its belongings than of others and theirs. What we really need is more backbone and far more of that robust sense called Common.

THE ONE QUESTION

The most important thing in life is to get out of it with a clean sheet. Whether we make a success or a failure of it from a material point of view matters very little provided we stand right with God at the end. For the things worth while are the things of God, whereas the treasures the world takes to its heart are at best but counterfeit.

Long ago Jesus Christ summed it all up in that arresting question, "What doth it profit a man to gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul?" There is enough philosophy to last a lifetime in that one interrogation. It men would but bear it in mind they would not make such a mess of things. There would trenches in many places. not be so many broken hearts, nor such a harvest of disappointed that question, the "many things" about which the world is so busy look very small indeed. The cross that many blessings that have been our at first sight seems almost unbearable becomes light and sweet. For a few years, a very few years, from now it will matter very little to us whether our way was a way of roses or a path of thorns. Whichever it was we shall have arrived at the end of the journey, and if Jesus is waiting there to great us we will care but little for

The world to-day refuses answer this question of Jesus Christ. It is not practical. It adds nothing to the 3 per cents.—indeed it denies that the 3 per cents. matter at all. It awakens an uncomfortable feellet it be what is profitable for us here ing, and if there is one thing the world likes to be it is to be comfortkeep before us the rare, inspiring able. It dismisses all who endeavor to follow the Gospel with a pitying contempt. It dubs them dreamers and visionaries. "Eat, drink, and be merry, for to-morrow we die" is its rule of faith. It has no patience with those who squander time and energy on the supernatural. They are too impractical. Their centre of

But the world cannot get along without Christ. The nations tried it, and see what a mess they have made of things. No more than the nation, can the individual get along by ignoring God. He has to be taken into account whether we like it or not. Living as we are in the midst of a world that has forgotten Him, we must be ever on our guard if we are to preserve ourselves from its corruption. There is no place for God in the present economy of things. It is our business to make room for Him in our hearts, and to keep Him dwelling there always.

COLUMBA

THE NATIONS ENGAGED IN THE WAR

A brief conspectus of the number of nations engaged in the world war and the varying number of opponents against which each of countries is under arms will be of value for a correct understanding of the European situation. Germany is at war with the following eight Russia, England, Belgium, detected an extravagance and a want France, Monaco, Montenegro, Serbis and Japan. Austria-Hungary adds Italy to the same list of foes Bulgaria is at war with the six Powers: Russia, England, France Montenegro and Serbia although no formal declaration of war has actually been made in re gard to the first of these belligerents Turkey is in conflict with the same six nations. On the side of the Allies; Russia, England, France, Montenegro and Serbia are at war with all the four Central Powers Belgium, Monaco, and Japan, with only Germany and Austria Hungary It is easy enough to see "badness" in hard to make, for selfishness, naked Italy with Austria-Hungary, Turke It is a safe and sane policy to live large bodies of people, in societies or and unashamed, is at the root of and Bulgaria. The total number of nations engaged is thirteen. nations engaged is thirteen. The will encourage thim to work the actual number of separate wars of harder at the next effort. There one nation against another, which together make up the great world will remains a human side to the let each province settle its own school dual, especially when the individual styles and the fashions, and if they together make up the great world cannot have the real thing why they war, is twenty-nine.—America.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

THE ATTACK ON SALONIKI

The attack on Saloniki is about to begin. The Fifth Turkish Army, that which held the Dardanelles positions, has been ordered to the Greek The Bulgars, as a result of frontler. the conference with the Emperor William at Nish, have decided to take part in the campaign. With the aid of the Turks and Bulgars the Gerit is believed, be able to invest the city effectively. The movement of Austrian army which conquered Montenegro to the southward through country east of Avlona, so that the and Serbs will not be able Italians to strike at the right flank of the army of investment across the Albanian mountains.

THE CONQUEST OF ALBANIA

The conquest of Albania and the occupation of the territory around Aviona will be the signal for the opening of the main Germanic offensive against Saloniki. It is not probable that the Austrians will seek to dislodge the Italians from Avlona, but they will endeavor to occupy which will mask that city positions and hold the Italians passive there while the major operations at Salon iki proceed. Montenegro is quieting down rapidly, and the Austrians are making sure of their position by absolutely disarming the population.

THE WESTERN FRONT

The reports from Paris and London as to operations on the western front still emphasize the artillery actions. The Germans yesterday made an infantry attack on a salient of the British line near Loos, but were driven back. Between Loos and La Basses Canal the German guns were specially active, and the British redamaging the enemy's states that the French attacked the German tronches near Neuville with hand grenades, but failed to peneidols upon their feet of clay, the hard hopes. For, looked at in the light of trate them, and, it is asserted, lost heavily.

A REMARKABLE CLAIM

A remarkable claim is made by the Germans as to the result of aerial warfare on the western front since October 1. They have lost, they say, only 15 machines, while the French and British have lost 63, including 11 which were forced to land, pre sumably from engine trouble or similar causes, within the German lines. The Allies, it has been shown send 4 times as many machines scouting over the German lines as the enemy sends over the lines of the Allies. On that basis, it will be noticed, the losses are proportionate ly equal. The Allied airmen are unquestionably more enterprising than the German. An evidence of this was given on Thursday in an attack on the village of Freiburg, about 25 miles from Hamburg, in the estuary of the Elbe, by 2 aeroplanes which dropped 5 bombs upon the village and got away. Berlin reports that some damage was done, but that there were no casualties.

THE AUSTRIANS

The Austrians are reported to be making most extensive preparations to hold their present lines a few miles to the east of Czernowitz, in Bukowina. Many guns of heavy calibre are being brought up and mounted in such a fashion as to forefensive line along the Pruth, the Dniester and the Stripa. The men in the trenches released by this increase of artillery defences are being sent to the north, where, it is be lieved, a new German offensive is being planned around Riga and There has been a marked increase of German aerial activity in

CONTINUE THEIR SWEEP

The Russians continue their sweep in Armenia and in Persia. It is offi cially reported that they have crushed the Turks in an engagement east of Erzerum, and taken 17 officers, 274 men and a large quantity of stores. They are now pursuing the flesing enemy. In Persia, also, south of Lake Urumiah, large forces, accompanied by Kurdish irregulars, were driven from their positions and many prisoners were taken. In addition thousands of cattle and large quantities of arms, munitions and medical supplies were captured. Still farther south, in?the Hamadan region, the Turks and Luristan levies were driven southward. The entire Turkish line is giving way before the Russians, and this will shortly affect the operations in Mesopotamia, whence the Turks must draw men to strengthen their Caucasus battleline.—Toronto Globe, January 29.

TELL THEM ABOUT IT

A clever writer in one of our exchanges pens these words, and they are worth remembering : "If he is a young priest and he has just delivered a good sermon that you were pleased with, tell him you enjoyed it and profited by it. This

Messenger.

of God.-St. Anthony's

T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

Special Cable to THE CATHOLIC RECORD

London, January 29.—The collapse of the opposition to conscription in the British Parliament has already produced momentous results. The first of these is greater confidence amongst her allies of England's iron determination to make all sacrifices to win this war.

In Paris I found that French opinion was ignoring our internal difficulties and a small division was enormously impressed by this extraordinarily tranquil subversion of our national traditions.

The second result is a considerable modification in the political values of our chief public men. In this respect Premier Asquith reaps the richest reward. Everybody, in all parties, acknowledges that he alone, with his incomparable gifts of tact and persua siveness, could have maintained the unity of his mixed cabinet and made easy the passage through the House of Commons of such a difficult messure.

One of his most adroit moves was to leave absolute charge of the bill to the hands of Andrew Bonar Law. whose able conduct of the bill has enormously enhanced his reputation. Bonar Law is now regarded as the next Prime Minister in case that accident deprives England of the services of Mr. Asquith. As things look now, however, Mr. Asquith will remain the Premier until the end of

The third unexpected result of this last event is the decided enhance. ment of the position of the Irish party and the irony of this result. All Irish leaders had looked with grave apprehension of a struggle over conscription. On one hand they had reason to count with the intense hostility of Ireland to conscription and upon the other with a secret campaign of well paid pro-German cranks who whispered that the Irish party would betray Ireland. ourse no such thing was possible, but the bold, tactful stand taken by the Irish party and their success in getting the unanimous approval of the Ministry, including such strong opponents as Bonar Law, A. J. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne to agree to the exclusion of Ireland, has given the final blow to this always insignificant and now extinct minority.

In spite of violent speeches and esolutions the general opinion now is that no labour movement or other serious resistance will confront the operations of the conscription bill. specially if the administration of it be conducted with tactful considera tion. The mere passage of the measure will produce such a response as to make the application of the compulsory powers of the bill entire y unnecessary.

Some correspondents in America have asked me regarding the composition of the Inniskilling regiment who saved the British and French armies by their brave rear guard action at Saloniki. The great majority of these battalions came from the Nationalist counties of Fermanagh. Cavan and Tyrone, but some of the

attalions are mainly Protestants. I am glad to say that these sectar ian differences of home life have entirely disappeared in the trenches.

A Cabinet minister asked me, be ginning with the complimentary observation that I was something of a seer, what did I think would happen in England after the war. I have already repeated the remark which I first made-"We shall not be vague. Mr. J. H. Morgan, a law proany longer able to talk of wicked dukes," which, as the Minister was had just that touch of irony which makes the eyes gentleman, who has been a student of that great master of humor twinkle of politics for many years, has gone with childlike delight.

Taking up the question in a more serious mood I enter on a slight out a scheme that will be presented forecast of some of the possible re. in due time. sults. I must, however, begin with the preliminary observation that no- at one of the sittings of parliament body can speak with the least ject so remote and so uncertain. able Unionist member for Glasgo who has been a professor most Unionist minister, to me, shall be or what we shall think. We sadge and wide outlook. I must leave shall have to revise our attitude to that part of the new future at this

every subject under the sun." This uncertainty as to the future is very much due to the feeling of tion we at this moment are national solidarity which the or vice versa; of the Orange Pro- the war is over. Probably a Nationalist—all of these things have helped to obliterate many of the didivided races and craeds and classes in Britain. This mingling of formersounds even still curious to my ear Robers Cecil, one of the most eager and passionate of the strictest school of Tories, and it is with a start that see some of the stoutest Tories itting immediately behind the most sitting immediately behind the most prominent Liberal leaders and "devilling," to use the English phrase, their work for them.

Further this topsy-turvy world has Further this topsy-turvy world has been made even more topsy-turvy by Council, though it did some of its the extraordinary response of the Empire to the demands of the You now knock up Motherland. Against an Australian, a Canadian or a New Zealander wherever you go.

You find them in hotels dining side access to all the military and naval.

by side with Englishmen or Scots men or Irishmen. You hear their somewhat unfamiliar accent in the streets; you see many of them on crutches and limping, taking tea in the House of Commons or wandering through our picture galleries. Clubs especially for their benefit have been created with lightning rapidity and abound in good will. They call England "home," and they literally have found it a home, affectionate, hospitable and sympathetic.

I take up the suggestion made by

this last statement first as forecast ing one of the great changes in point of view which must come after the war; and that is a closer knitting of the bonds between the Dominions and the Mother country. This tendency may take either of two directions. tariff reformers are still as eager as ever to find the path to closer ties in free trade within the empire, or what the Germans call a Zollverein. This scheme necessarily involves tariffs against countries outside the Empire, and of course primarily against Germany. The feeling against Germany. The feeling against Germany is, of course, so fiercs that any scheme to make war on her trade is bound to find strong cceptance among large sections of the people, and to that extent the cause of tariff reforms has been enormously strengthened On the other hand, Liberal free traders-of whom I myself am one —see in any such proposals a deadly blow at the fiscal system, which, in our opinion, has made great Britain reach so powerful a position among the com-mercial nations of the world. A second path toward Imperial union,

which all parties will probably agree, is some form of Imperial Federation The movement for Imperial Federation has been steadily making though rather silently, slowly and almost invisibly for several years. remember once meeting a couple of young Orange Tories in the city of Toronto the day after I had made a speech on Home Rule. I had put Home Rule not as an isolated policy, but as part of a general scheme of the evolution of local affairs from Imperial Affairs. My two friends said they agreed with every word I had said. But the possibility of a concordat on these lines was destroyed by the violent movement in Ulster, to which the name of Sir Edward Carson was added. did not die. Towards the close of the struggle, when every mannot carried away by party passion looked with horror on the perilous future, the idea of the Imperial Federation once more took hold of many minds in all parties. Strong Imperialist Federationists in the Liberal ranks got into touch with men of the same way of thinking on the Unionist side. The Liberationists were able to count at least a hundred Unionist members among the supporters of their idea, Meetings, interviews, negotiations were steadily going on between the sections, and possibly if it had not been for the war they might have hammered out a scheme which would have found a method of escape on Ulster question, with the assent of all parties. With the war, however, and the necessity of putting the Home Rule Bill in its original form on the statute book, these hopes had to vanish.

Since the war the idea has once more come to the front, and of course has been enormously strengthened by the gigantic support given to all such ideas by the actions of the Dominions and by the splendid bravery and magnificent services of their men on the battlefield. The idea and the programme are still of course fessor in one of our greatest London colleges, has been trying to work the down to an isolated house in a remote country district, and is hammering

I initiated a debate on the subject and my views were backed very approach to definitiveness on a sub- strongly by Mr. Mackinder, a very able Unionist member for Glasgow, where we his life, and is a man of large knowlpoint for the present. Though we are all thinking of Imperial Federawar pelled to concentrate our minds so has produced. The spectacles of the much on the conduct of the war, that highest aristocrat starving, shiver- it is impossible to work out, to speak ing, dying by the side of the miner or or even to think of any other subject. the docker; of the Irish or Scotch or But the ideal is germinating, and I Welsh soldier coming at the critical have little doubt that it will have to moment to the rescue of the English | be broached almost immediately after testant on the bast of terms in the that was strongly urged in the clossame trench with the Catholic ing days of the Home Rule struggles -namely, appointing a Royal Commission with plenary visions which for centuries have bound to report within a definite period — two years was the time mentioned—will be carried out and ly opposing factors on the battlefield to this will be delegated the duty of is augmented and symbolized by the laying a well thought out and Coalition government, which has thoroughly complete scheme before almost obliterated party spirit. It parliament. I have no doubt that when the scheme does come it will mysels addressed by Lord be considered by all parties in a more impartial spirit than was possible in the days before the war. I may say that Professor Morgan

that unification has already partly begun. The first step was taker when there was an Imperial Council work in private, had important re sults. One of the first of its achieve. ments which had far-reaching con