

Important Document Issued.

(Continued from page 3.)

tolate, they penetrate into every quarter, pursue vice and error in all their crooked ways, even to the depths of the hidden recesses which they seek to conceal themselves. To the enemies' assaults they give the ready and appropriate refutation, which exposes sophisms, unavailing malicious suggestion and places in brilliant light their true light; on all questions on which public attention is centered, and which passion and self-interest throw into such uncharacteristic light, they pour the lucid rays that illumine opinion and enable it to see clearly; they awaken the energies, unite wills and revive courage, by sounding the alarm and raising aloft the standard which should be followed. The press is a beautiful and glorious mission, well suited to attract the zeal and claim the devotedness of those who have received talents from God and wish to make them bring forth fruit; well worthy also of receiving from the mass of the faithful the encouragement and practical support which it needs.

May truly Catholic newspapers, therefore, increase and multiply. May they in every part of our country and in language understood by the people, carry on their fruitful apostolate, and bring to all the good tidings of Christ. It is our cherished wish that the faithful subscribe for them and uphold them in every way, and that the clergy give them every encouragement and labor for their greater diffusion. There is probably at the present time no more effective means of defending the stronghold of good, than to solidly man the outposts erected by our faith with the fearless sentinels of Catholic journalism, and, with our confidence and timely aid, give them all the assistance possible in keeping faithful watch, in following attentively the movements of the enemy, and in repelling every attack directed from the stronghold of evil.

OUR SOCIAL PLAGUES.

Every community that desires Christian morals to flourish within it should apply itself to combat vice in every form, and especially to eradicate certain infectious diseases which gain a foothold in nearly every social body, and too often find their ready fields for dissemination. Nor has our own country escaped this danger. Vice has poured in upon us its invading tide, and, in spite of the vigilance of pastors and the still lively faith of our people, it has forced our frontiers and works its ravages in greater or less degree everywhere. Wherefore, Dearly Beloved Brethren, we cannot close this Letter without raising a cry of warning and calling upon you to watch, to struggle and to pray.

It were too long to outline here the distressing series of scourges that threaten the integrity of your faith and the purity of your morals; but we should at least put you on your guard against blasphemy, perjury, bad theatres and the desecration of the Sunday. These, Dearly Beloved Brethren, are terrible enemies of your salvation, against which you must wage relentless and unsparring war. Their gaining the upper hand in any community means the death of all Christian spirit and a return to paganism.

Among the social evils which have already wrought untold harm in our country, we wish especially to single out that of intemperance. Few are the vices more prolific in destructiveness than it is: none there are that open more surely and more rapidly the way to every abasement, physical, intellectual and moral. Alcohol is a poison whose awful property it is to attack at the same time both soul and body, of which it paralyzes every energy and dries up every life-spring. The gross, insatiable and abnormal appetite that it develops in the senses is one of the most degrading and the most hopeless passions known to men. Its victims are an object of scandal and horror to society, until at last they go to swell the list of those who fill up hospitals and insane asylums.

An already long-standing and ever-renewed experience shows us the fate of wealth when made subservient to this all-absorbing passion; it shows us too how the wages of the workman, instead of bringing to the home the daily bread and the modest comforts it requires, are often wasted on the way, to fall into the hands of the genial tavern-keeper, who sells for that paltry gain the dishonor of the husband and father, and the misery and shame of the wife and children. An examination of statistics reveals to us an annual expenditure in our country for intoxicating drinks of more than one hundred million dollars. Now the bulk of this sum represents the fund that goes to support vice, while squandering the treasures of physical strength and intellectual and moral vigor with which God has so abundantly endowed our people.

The Church, therefore, is not giving away to visionary fears, in calling upon her children, and in banding them together beneath the standard of the Cross, to organize an energetic campaign against one of the most dangerous enemies of religion and country. In this she stands faithful to her office and to her traditions. The war upon the scourge of intemperance goes back to the very beginnings of our country. When the traffic in strong drink threatened to destroy the newborn civilization on our shores, one man boldly took a stand against the greedy traders, encouraged though

they were by the more or less open support of those in power; that man was our illustrious first Bishop, Monseigneur de Laval. In the exciting struggle that then took place, the conflicting parties of which now appear to us in the full light of history, the nobler partis on the side of the valiant apostle of temperance, he it was who acted the true patriot and the far-seeing champion of the interests, both material and religious, of the infant colony.

Successors of this great Bishop, we feel it our duty to continue today the crusade of which he was here the fearless initiator. Following his example we would deliver our people from the ever-abiding peril of strong drink. We firmly trust our endeavors will not be in vain. Already very considerable results have been attained, and everything inclines us to hope that they will be lasting.

Almost everywhere the civil authorities have given their weighty co-operation, and have devoted themselves in a truly Christian spirit to the checking of this plague. It has above all been realized that the evil should be attacked at its source, namely, that the traffic in intoxicating liquors should be suppressed, or where that is not possible, at least restricted and more severely controlled, and that legislation should be enacted on the point, tending to restrain vice and render easier the task of good citizens in averting danger and putting a stop to disorder.

We most heartily congratulate all those who have labored in this cause of social uplifting; we encourage them to persevere in their noble endeavors, and to extend their zeal to every undertaking tending to the preservation of moral healthfulness.

There is another danger that constitutes a serious menace to the Catholic faith in this country, and is becoming a veritable pest to society—we refer to mixed marriages. The Church has always strongly opposed them, because she holds them to be highly prejudicial to the welfare of religion. A long and painful experience proves the correctness of her views. Such marriages are often a cause of perversion for the Catholic party, and always offer in practice great difficulties to the Catholic education of children. Thus on enquiry into the cause of the too numerous losses the Church has suffered in Canada and elsewhere, it is plainly shown that quite a large number may be traced to mixed marriages.

For this reason, Dearly Beloved Brethren, we deem it opportune to give you a solemn warning. The Church, we repeat, is opposed to such unions. It is therefore the duty of a true Catholic to take into practical consideration an opposition so authoritative and so well founded. It is also the duty of parents to make their teaching of the Church known to their children and to maintain a strict watch over them, lest anything in their social relations expose them to form dangerous associations likely to lead to mixed marriages.

We admonish all pastors and missionaries to carefully instruct their people on this important subject, and to insist on the necessity of forestalling the danger by avoiding every occasion that might cause it to arise. The greatest good will and the most united efforts are needed to safeguard the faith of our people from an evil so malignant.

There remains, Dearly Beloved Brethren, a final danger to point out to you, one of the most fatal to Christian society, since it attacks Christ and His Church and seeks to destroy their influence over souls; we refer to secret societies and neutral societies. By secret societies we mean all those occult associations more or less directly allied to Freemasonry, which, under a variety of names, strive with the same untiring persistency to wipe out Catholicism from the face of the earth.

In spite of the severe and oft-repeated condemnations of the Sovereign Pontiffs, these noxious organizations have carried out their plans and accomplished their sinister work even in the heart of Catholic nations. To their influence and inspiration may be traced those iniquitous laws which have for object to enslave the Church and render her powerless; these doctrines subversive of authority and public order that ferment among the masses of the people, and periodically burst forth into ruinous ebullitions of crime and anarchy; and finally those cunningly contrived and skilfully executed plots against freedom of teaching and the inalienable rights of parents and of the Church in educational matters.

"The sect of Freemasons," says Leo XIII, "has grown with a rapidity beyond conception in the course of a century and a half, until it has come to be able, by means of fraud or of audacity, to gain such entrance into every rank of the State as to seem to be almost its ruling power. . . . Such a condition has been reached that henceforth there will be grave reason to fear, not indeed for the Church,—for her foundation is much too firm to be overturned by the effort of men—but for those States in which prevail the power, either of the sect, or of other sects not dissimilar which lend themselves to it as disciples and subordinates."

It grieves us to know, Dearly Beloved Brethren, that these secret societies have succeeded in recruiting their ranks in our country, even from among those who profess a claim to the title of Catholic. For this reason we deem it opportune to here recall the severe condemnation pronounced by the Church against those of her children who, trampling under foot their baptismal promises and the teaching of their faith, are not afraid to join those secret lodges and there make common cause with the worst enemies of religion. Treachery of this kind cannot to-day be

justified by the plea of ignorance, and still less by the hope of material preferment. Those who stain their souls with it are by the very act cut off from the body of the faithful, and, if they die without acknowledging their sin and making reparation for the scandal it has caused, are exposed to the severest penalties prescribed by the Church.

Side by side with these societies under the formal condemnation of the Church there are to be found others, which, while not laboring under a like sentence, should, however, be held in distrust by Catholics. Such are all associations of the economic or moral order which profess religious neutrality, open their ranks to men of every creed, and place all religions on a footing of perfect equality, and which on this account are called neutral societies. Such societies may not necessarily be hostile to the Church: in some cases even they may demonstrate a great respect for the Catholic religion, whose adherents often supply their best recruits and largest profits.

But, Dearly Beloved Brethren, make no mistake about this: neutral societies are rarely harmless and nearly always expose to grievous danger Catholics who join their ranks. The principle of equality which they claim to practice is false and extremely dangerous. The admission that all religions are equal is not permitted to a Catholic, since he knows that truth is one, and that the source of truth is Christ living in His Church to the end of time. However by frequenting places where error claims and is conceded all the rights and honors due to truth, and by inhaling the air of religious indifference engendered by this ever-present delusion, he is likely to eventually succumb to its contaminating influence and to impair the integrity of his faith.

To this first danger may be added one no less grave in consequences. It is never known in whose hands and under what control these neutral societies are placed. They may any day depart from their pretended neutrality, and bring upon themselves the condemnation of the Church. Indeed experience is not wanting to assure us that this is no idle supposition. And in that contingency Catholics guilty of the imprudence of having joined a society thus falling under condemnation, find themselves facing the painful alternative either of relinquishing the savings they have entrusted to it, or of abandoning the practice of their religion, thereby jeopardizing their eternal salvation. Sad examples have shown us that in such cases many Catholics choose the less worthy course and sacrifice their souls for material interests.

Wherefore, Dearly Beloved Brethren, we feel it necessary to extend to you in this regard a solemn warning by quoting the words of Leo XIII, in an Encyclical to the Bishops of the United States:

"Let this conclusion remain firm to shun not only the associations which have been openly condemned by the judgment of the Church, but those also which, in the opinion of intelligent men, and especially of the Bishops, are regarded as suspicious and dangerous. Nay rather, unless forced by necessity to do otherwise, Catholics ought to prefer to associate with Catholics, a course which will be very conducive to the safeguarding of their faith." This most prudent rule is laid down by the supreme authority of the Church. We beg of you to follow it faithfully. You will find in it, along with a better guarantee for your material interests, security of faith, peace of conscience and the blessings of Heaven.

CONCLUSION.

Such, dearly beloved Brethren, are the teachings we desire to offer for your serious reflection, and which are intended to serve as a crown to the labors of the First Plenary Council of Quebec. We beseech the Blessed Mary Mother of Good Counsel and Help of Christians to aid you to faithfully put in practice these recommendations, which are placed before you in all affection and for the greater good of your souls. Our fullest hopes will be realized, if the principles we have set forth in this Pastoral Letter serve henceforward as a guide to you in your private and public, your domestic and social life. Then should we see Christ triumph, command and rule over all as a Master; and a consoling and promising reality would have been expressed by the praises that rose up joyful and exultant to the arches of the great Basilica on the closing of the Council: Christus vincit, Christus imperat, Christus regnat, Christus triumphat, Christ commands, Christ reigns."

Worms in children, if they be not attended to, cause convulsions, and often death. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will protect the children from these distressing afflictions.

Cowan's Cocoa advertisement. It is made from the finest carefully selected cocoa beans, roasted by a special process to perfect the rich chocolate flavor. Cowan's is most delicious and most economical. The Cowan Co. Limited, Toronto.

WE PRINT The True Witness Printing Co. An office thoroughly equipped for the production of finely printed work. Letterheads, Billheads and General Commercial Work at the Right Prices. IF PRINTED BY US IT'S DONE RIGHT. 316 Lagauchetiere Street W., Montreal.

Caught Cold By Working In Water. A Distressing, Tickling Sensation In The Throat.

Mr. Albert MacPhee, Chignecto Mines, N.S., writes: "In Oct., 1908, I caught cold by working in water, and had a very bad cough and that distressing, tickling sensation in my throat so I could not sleep at night, and my lungs were so very sore I had to give up work. My doctor gave me medicine but it did me no good so I got a bottle of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup and by the time I had used two bottles I was entirely cured. I am always recommending it to my friends." Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup combines the potent healing virtues of the Norway pine tree with other absorbent, expectorant and soothing medicines of recognized worth, and is absolutely harmless, prompt and safe for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Croup, Sore Throat, Pain or Tightness in the Chest, and all Throat and Lung Troubles. Beware of imitations of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. Ask for it and insist on getting what you ask for. It is put up in a yellow wrapper, three pine trees the trade mark, and the price 25 cents. Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Hope for the Chronic Dyspeptic.—Through lack of consideration of the body's needs many persons allow disorders of the digestive apparatus to endure until they become chronic, filling days and nights with suffering. To these a course of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is recommended as a sure and speedy way to regain health. These pills are especially compounded to combat dyspepsia and the many ills that follow in its train, and they are successful always.

Vapo-Resolene. Established 1879. FOR WHOOPING COUGH, CROUP, ASTHMA, COUGHS, BRONCHITIS, SORE THROAT, CATARRH, DIPHTHERIA. Vapo-Resolene stops the paroxysms of Whooping Cough. Ever dreaded Croup cannot exist where Resolene is used. It acts directly on nose and throat, making breathing easy in the case of colds, soothes the sore throat and stops the cough. It is a boon to sufferers of Asthma. Resolene is a powerful germicide, acting both as a curative and a preventive in contagious diseases. Resolene's best recommendation is its thirty years of successful use. For sale by All Druggists. Send Postal for Descriptive Booklet. Creole Antiseptic Throat Tablets, simple and soothing for the irritated throat, 10c. Leeming, Miles Co., Limited, Agents, Montreal, Canada.

Revive the Jaded Condition.—When energy flags and the cares of business become irksome; when the whole system is out of sorts and there is general depression, try Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. They will regulate the action of a deranged stomach and a disordered liver, and make you feel like a new man. No one need suffer a day from debilitated digestion when so simple and effective a pill can be got at any drug store.

Homeseekers. The Grand Trunk Railway are planning excursions to the Canadian Northwest. These have been christened Home Seekers' Excursions, and bring to mind the thought that there are thousands of new homes yet to be found in this ever-growing country—particularly along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The Grand Trunk Pacific has acquired sufficient land to make nearly 100 town sites between Winnipeg and Edmonton. The lots are now placed on the market for sale, and are being rapidly picked up. Since last September, between Winnipeg and Edmonton, the G.T.P. have been operating passenger and freight services. This is a distance of 703 miles, and all along the line there are villages and towns springing up with surprising activity. There are four or five divisional points within this mileage that are showing marked development, and would well engage the special attention of those seeking a home or an improvement of their financial condition. These Excursions will be run on April 5th, 19th, May 3, 17, 31, June 14, 28, July 12, 26, August 9, 23, September 6, 20. Good for return within two months of date of issue. Other and full particulars may be

Geo. W. Reed & Co. Limited. Contractors for: General Roofing, Cement and Asphalt Paving, Sheet Metal Work. 337 Craig St., W. Montreal.

NORTHERN Assurance Coy Limited, OF LONDON, Eng. "Strong as the Strongest." INCOME AND FUNDS, 1908. Capital and Accumulated Funds, \$49,490,000. Annual Revenue from Fire and Life etc. Premiums and from Interest on Invested Funds, \$ 9,015,000. Deposited with Dominion Government for Security of Canadian Policy Holders, \$ 465,580. Head Offices—London and Aberdeen. Branch Offices for Canada, 88 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal. ROBERT W. TYRE, Manager for Canada. MONTREAL CITY AGENTS. ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. ARTHUR BROWNING, 225 Board of Trade, Tel. Main 1745. FRED. G. REED, 30 St. John St., Tel. Main 1299. WILLIAM CAIRNS, 31 St. Nicholas St., Tel. Main 59. CHAS. A. BYRNE, 88 Notre Dame St. W., Tel. Main 1539. JOHN MACLEOD, 88 Notre Dame St. W., Tel. Main 1539. FRENCH DEPARTMENT. N. BOYER, 88 Notre Dame St. W., Tel. Main 1539. GRO. H. THIBAUDEAU, True Witness Bldg., Tel. Main 5076.

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Suffered From Terrible Pains. For Backache, Lame or Weak Back—one of the symptoms of most distressing symptoms of kidney infection, there is no remedy equal to Doan's Kidney Pills. After taking out the stitches, twinges and twinges, limbering up the stiff back, and giving perfect comfort. A medicine that strengthens the kidneys so that they are enabled to extract the poisonous uric acid from the blood and prevent the chief cause of Rheumatism. Mr. Douglas A. McInnes, Broad Cove, Beaks, N.S., writes: "I was troubled with my kidneys for nine months, and suffered with such terrible pains across the small of my back all the time that I could hardly get around. After taking two boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills I began to feel better, and by the time I had taken three I was completely cured."

obtained on application to J. Quinlan, District Passenger Agent, Montreal, or any other G. T. representative. A bottle of Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, taken according to directions, will subdue a cough in a short time. This assertion can be verified by hundreds who have tried it and are pleased to bear testimony to its merits, so that all may know what a splendid medicine it is. It cost you only 25 cents to join the ranks of the many who have been benefited by its use.

Mass, with orchestra. parade through the famous Farfalla-scolossal serpent 20 ch. The parade will be for the purpose of the entertainment of these monsters of creation. Vespers in the balloons are released over the entire province permit. following items in the direction of Senator: the Senoritas Petra Sina Balleras, Juanita Emilia Padua, "Follers," etc.

Priest. American Students Assaulted and Robbed.

Gazette, of Cairo, an assault on an armed Mullan and four Arab boatmen in the Bay of Aden. rowing the vessel at night and dead fare. When this attacked the vessel, and a fierce fight with the boatmen were

rowing, but the boat had attracted who rowed along-boat and battered with their oars. The ensued and the crew took them to force them on d decamped in the

were exhausted. us but not serious British and American "ing into the mat- of the assailants. Andy Kinnaird.

or ninety-third year dy Kinnaird, the nth Lord Kinnaird, interesting link with ony, a niece of rough, who was and unchanging with Sir Francis O'Connell into med in 1828, af- Clare election and Lieutenant-in-Dub- 1847, within a onnell's death at Kinnaird's husband of Lord Edward a large share of patriotic principles. ch representative seat in the House- arless advocacy of a 1831, and was not sit in the s, a Peer of the

not Sleep Dark. Heart and Responsible. in and woman to-sleep on a sleepless bed, e in the sweet and e comes to down. Some base, worry or ated and irritated that it cannot be Rosemore, Ont., years ago I began something serious would lie down. I sleep in the dark, e up and rub my e and so numb, t and nerves were burn's Heart and e got a box to e box and ma without the light. I can remem- nervous and run- e or 3 for \$1.25 direct on receipt ure Co., Limited.