

GLOOMY PICTURE OF CHURCH IN FRANCE

CAMOUFLAGED RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT

In last week's issue of the Catholic Transcript published at Hartford, Conn., appears an interesting article by a priest, who has returned from Europe, on the religious situation in France. The writer draws a bitter indictment of the propagandists who sent sizzling cables to America denouncing the destruction of Catholic cathedrals in France...

THE PROPAGANDA

The article is as follows: "This article is not written as a defense of Germany. Germany has no defense to make—it was absolutely guilty of plunging the world into depths of blood formerly unimagined in the pages of history. English propaganda against Germany ran wild, but the latter made the mistake of committing enough atrocities to supply the bitterest enemy with the foundation of a giant superstructure which would be easily erected by a strong English imagination. So Lord Northcliffe and his worthy subordinates kept the Atlantic cables hot with some remarkable stories about the "heavily Hunns."

GENERAL PERSHING'S IDEA OF HORROR

"It is not the purpose of this article to enter deeply into the subject of particular propaganda for it does not concern the main idea in view. But we are glad to publish a fact which may have received very little notice in America, and it concerns the publication of a special memorandum by General Pershing last fall in which he forbade the Army to forward to America any incident stamped as German atrocity unless said atrocity was proven beyond doubt. We may easily draw our own conclusions. One thing is sure, General Pershing had a better idea of honor and fair play than Lord Northcliffe and his worthy propaganda spreaders.

CALAMITY SHOUTERS

"We now have reached the main point of our article. We remember how well the destruction of the cathedrals was played up to the public. The Cathedral at Rheims, Arras and Amiens were shattered and shall torn—and abuse was heaped upon the German's head for his dastardly crime. And rightly so. But who led the calamity shouters? Who dictated the marvelous articles and descriptions that filled papers and magazines? Men that probably knew nothing of churches in general in ordinary times and who probably would cast the news item aside which told that some grand Catholic Church had burned to the ground. It presented a rather peculiar picture to see so many worthy Englishmen heart-broken because a Catholic Cathedral was razed to the ground. But they knew the vast benefit to be derived from propaganda which would surely affect the minds of people who are reached through the glorious sentiment of religion, and so the English wept bitter tears because Catholic cathedrals were destroyed.

REAL REASON FOR RESENTMENT

"What was the general sentiment which actuated a just anger against the German for his destruction of these cathedrals? Because a great work of art had been destroyed. Never any reference to the Cathedral as a great temple of worship where God's grace was poured into man's soul through the seven channels of the Sacraments. Never any reference that here in the great Cathedral of Rheims the Eucharistic Lord would no longer be raised on high for adoration. No, simply a work of art had been destroyed. It might have been a theatre or a Hotel de Ville as far as its intrinsic value was concerned—it was a work of art, and so artists, Free Thinkers and even Methodists raved when the cathedrals of desolated France were mentioned. Cathedrals are not solemnly dedicated and consecrated to God to become works of art, but rather to become the material instrument of assisting man to fulfill his ultimate destiny.

RELIGION IN FRANCE

"As for the French and their Catholicism, the writer has very little sympathy. Take a miniature horse shoe, place on the map of France and outline it with a pencil. The marked lines will give a fairly accurate idea of the spots in France where real religious practice still prevails. The larger cities and commercial centers are fast becoming Socialistic. Religious practice is confined to the habit of wearing medals. The villages in Central and Southern France are entirely devoid of a semblance of Catholic practice. The writer was once stationed in a village of 800 inhabitants. The old curé was taken sick and the American chaplain filled the vacancy during the curé's indisposition. The average attendance at Mass on Sunday was twenty-five. The writer could site many villages and cities in which this same condition prevailed. It was really a sad and depressing

thought to recall the glorious page written by faithful France in the Church's history and then to see the lack of faith displayed in that land today. France, with its glorious line of Saints, missionaries and brilliant ecclesiastical minds is living on its past history, and it is sad to see it sit idly by as it permits the country to be ruled by a band of atheists and free thinkers. The Germans permitted a freedom of worship and religious action in Alsace-Lorraine that is entirely unknown in French provinces.

SOME MODERN INSTANCES

"The city of Bourges contains one of those marvelous gigantic cathedrals for which France is so justly renowned. The writer was in the city last fall and a French merchant was very insistent that the American must not leave the city until he had seen the wonderful Cathedral. The writer asked him if he went to Mass there on Sunday. No, he was very sorry to say he did not go on Sunday because he was very busy. And so it was with the big percentage of the city's population; it pointed out the Cathedral on six days of the week as a wonderful piece of art and they forgot it entirely on the seventh day as a temple of religious practice.

"A French captain was once billeted under the same roof with the writer. He was extremely well educated, quick of wit, bearing a wonderful War record and still possessing a fairly large degree of religious practice. We were discussing the same question considered in this article. He, too, had spoken often of France's great Cathedrals, but the same man was always the background of his admiration. He considered them as works of art only and the big religious sentiment and feeling of the Catholic religion and practice never entered into his natural awe for these works of art. The writer then described France's lack of religious practice and he sorrowfully admitted the truth of the matter. The writer suggested that France would be wealthier in spirit if she had more smaller churches which were filled on Sundays than hundreds of vast cathedrals which are relatively deserted on the Lord's day. The captain was rather stunned by the idea, but he admitted that the plan would surely save more souls even though art might suffer a loss. Thus it is that practically all France regards its great churches—merely as great works of art.

FACT AND FANCY

"This is simply the writer's philosophy on France's ruined Cathedrals. It is not a defense of the Germans and their actions, for he believes that they are burdened, with a difficult peace that was justified in every sense of the word. But two prominent facts came to his notice while he still trudged the ruined fields of Flanders. First, the wall of anguish which sounded throughout the world when French Cathedrals were destroyed was the human wall of artists, free thinkers and English propagandists. The Cathedrals were simply great works of art and not temples of divine worship dedicated to the Roman Catholic practice. Secondly, the French do not consider their great Cathedrals with any higher sentiment than their non-Catholic and anti-religious neighbors. They are show places for the most part. Let them show a real living faith in their religion, and build some smaller churches to replace their ruined monuments and then fill them on Sunday when they are built and perhaps God in His omniscience may judge that the passing of great Cathedrals wrought only material ruin.

THE WESTERN FAIR LONDON, ONT

Attractions for the Great Exhibition September 6th to 18th

The Johnny J. Jones Midway Exposition, one of the largest, cleanest and best attractions on the road, have been secured for the Exhibition this year. This show travels in their own special train of thirty cars, carry their own bands and have thirty shows and rides of the very best that can be produced. The platform attractions will be the very best that can be produced. Trained Elephants almost human in their acts. Horses performing all kinds of feats on the track before the Grand Stand. Trained Dogs and Monkeys, Darkies Aminals in a pantomime act that will be something new and different. The Al Golden Troupe of Acrobats the best of their kind. The Ernestons Troupe, the Ducat Bros., the Melburn Troupe and others will all appear twice daily. Fireworks every night. Plenty of music all the time. All information about the Exhibition on application to the Secretary, A. M. Hunt, London, Ont.

DIED

SISTER ST. ALEXANDER.—On Friday, July 4th, 1919, at Montreal, Cong. de Notre Dame, Sister St. Alexander passed away. She deceased, a daughter of Mrs. Alex. McArthur, Port Hood, Nova Scotia, was in her twenty-second year. She leaves to mourn her loss a loving mother, three sisters and two brothers. May her soul rest in peace.

KEARNEY.—At St. Joseph's Hospital, London, Ont., on Sunday, Aug. 10, 1919, Mr. R. J. Kearney. May his soul rest in peace.

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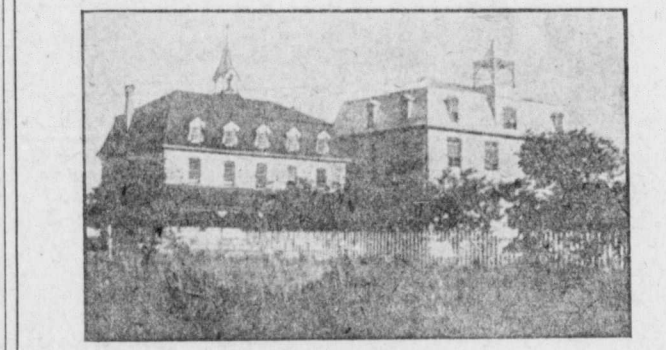
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TEACHERS WANTED QUALIFIED TEACHER WANTED FOR S. S. No. 1, Griffith. Salary \$500 per annum. Duties to commence Sept. 3rd. Apply to Daniel Donovan, Sec. Treas., Balvenie, P. O., Ont. 2180-4



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WANTED TWO SECOND CLASS PROFESSIONAL teachers, for St. Louis Separate School, Medicine Hat, Alta. One as first assistant and the other for primary classes. Apply stating experience and salary expected to Rev. M. F. Fitzpatrick, Sec. Treas., St. Patrick's Church, Medicine Hat, Alta. 2181-8

WANTED A 2ND CLASS QUALIFIED teacher for C. S. No. 2, Township of Gloucester; one that can teach a little French preferred. Salary \$550. Apply to R. J. Smith, R. E. No. 1, Ottawa, Ont. 2182-4

QUALIFIED TEACHER WANTED FOR S. S. No. 2, Gurd and Hinsworth, with 2nd or 3rd class certificate. Salary \$500 per annum. Apply to Casser Venesiers, Trout Creek, Ont. 2180-4

WANTED SECOND CLASS PROFESSIONAL teacher for C. S. No. 8, Humberly. Experience necessary. Duties to commence Sept. 1st. Salary \$500 per annum. Apply to John Delaney, Sec. Treas., Corkery, R. R. 1, Ont. 2182-4

WANTED A CATHOLIC TEACHER, HOLD- ing 2nd class professional certificate, for the English Parochial school, Little Current, Manitowlin Island, Ont. Apply stating salary and experience to Laurent Leung, Sec., Little Current, Manitowlin Island, Ont. 2182-4

QUALIFIED TEACHER WANTED FOR S. S. No. 15, Huntingdon. Duties to begin Sept. 3rd. Apply stating salary to Thos. O'Reilly, Huntingdon, Ont. 2182-4

TEACHER WANTED FOR ST. JOHNS Separate school, S. S. No. 1, Ellis. Salary \$525 per annum. Duties to commence Sept. 1st. Apply stating qualifications to Joseph Quinnan, R. R. 5, Stratford, Ont. 2183-9

TEACHER WANTED FOR CATHOLIC S. S. (Bilingual, No. 11, Anderson, 2nd or 3rd class qualifications. Salary \$600 per annum. Duties to commence Sept. 1st. Apply to W. S. Sunderland Sec. Treas., R. R. 1, Ash, Ont. 2182-4

WANTED A 2ND CLASS PROFESSIONAL teacher for C. S. No. 1, Central. Apply stating qualifications, experience and salary expected to Angus Chisholm, Sec. Treas., Northfield Station, R. R. 1, Ont. 2182-4

WELL EXPERIENCED CATHOLIC TEACHER wanted for S. S. One, Humberford, Second Class Certificate, Male or Female. Salary \$700 per annum, duties to begin 1st Sept. Apply to P. R. Delamondiere, Killarney, Ont. 2182-4

TEACHER WANTED FOR C. S. S. No. 1, Opascoke holding 2nd class professional certificate. Salary \$600 per annum. Duties to commence Sept. 3rd, 1919. Apply to Thos. P. Boyle, Sec. Treas., Opascoke Stn., Ont. R. R. No. 2. 2182-2

CATHOLIC TEACHER WANTED FOR SEP. School, No. 10, Carriick. First or second class certificate. Duties to commence after summer holidays. Apply stating salary and qualifications to Charles Schetter, Sec. Treas., Midway, Ont. R. R. No. 2. 2182-3

WANTED LADY TEACHER FOR BRANT- ford Separate school. First or second class certificate. Salary \$550 to \$600 per annum. Date to commence Sept. 2nd. Apply Frank Walker, Sec., Brantford, Ont. 2182-2

CATHOLIC HOMES WANTED THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN ARE AVAILABLE for placement: Three boys, ages, five, eight and nine years and three girls, ages, three, five and seven years. Applications received by William O'Connor, Inspector Children's Branch, 153 University Ave., Toronto, Ont. 2182-4

WANTED A GOOD GENERAL HOUSE- keeper, a woman about forty years. This is a good position for a capable woman. Two adults in family; plain cooking; small house. Duties to commence 1st Sept. Apply stating age, experience and wages expected to Mrs. M. P. Byrne, Collingwood, Ont. 2182-2

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MERCY HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL for Nurses, offers exceptional educational opportunities for competent and ambitious young women. Applicants must be eighteen years of age and have one year of High school or its equivalent. Pupils may enter at the present time. Applications to be sent to the Director of Nurses, Mercy Hospital, Toledo, Ohio. 2181-4

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Wake up, Ontario! Let the Referendum Battle-Cry Be "No!" - "No!" - "No!" - "No!"

SINCE the announcement in the Legislature last spring that a Referendum on the Ontario Temperance Act would be taken this fall, the different temperance organizations of the province of Ontario have met together to consider what attitude they should take. The result has been the formation of the Ontario Referendum Committee, which comprises representatives from the organized temperance forces of the province and the temperance sentiment of the province outside of these organizations. The new Committee will conduct the Campaign. We are asking the voters of Ontario to vote "No" to all questions submitted on the ballot.

The Referendum Ballot AND HOW TO VOTE

	Yes	No
1. Are you in favor of the repeal of THE ONTARIO TEMPERANCE ACT?		X
2. Are you in favor of the sale of light beer containing not more than two and fifty-one one hundredths per cent. alcohol weight measure through Government agencies and amendments to THE ONTARIO TEMPERANCE ACT to permit such sale?		X
3. Are you in favor of the sale of light beer containing not more than two and fifty-one one hundredths per cent. alcohol weight measure in standard hotels in local municipalities that by a majority vote favor such sale, and amendments to THE ONTARIO TEMPERANCE ACT to permit such sale?		X
4. Are you in favor of the sale of spirituous and malt liquors through Government agencies and amendments to THE ONTARIO TEMPERANCE ACT to permit such sale?		X

By the Ontario Temperance Act, sale and distribution of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes within the province were prohibited. For practically three years the province has experienced the good effects of this law. Its repeal would be a calamity. Any of the amendments would spoil it. For the Temperance forces to win they must secure four "No" majorities. That is, a majority for "No" on EVERY question. The Temperance forces will be defeated if there is a majority for "Yes" on any of the questions. You must mark an X after each of the four questions, or your ballot is counted as spoiled. A century of temperance progress in this province is at stake in the coming Referendum. The Ontario Referendum Committee earnestly and respectfully ask you to mark your X in the "No" column after each and every question, as indicated in the sample ballot reproduced herewith.

Ontario Referendum Committee

JOHN MACDONALD Chairman D. A. DUNLAP Treasurer ANDREW S. GRANT Vice-Chairman and Secretary (1001 Excelsior Life Bldg., Toronto) 50