

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB GOING STRONG

HALIFAX CATHOLICS PROVIDE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WITH A HOME

Halifax, June 13.—Going strong is the Army and Navy Club. When the Mail dropped in yesterday afternoon, as on many another, men in khaki and navy blue sat "at ease" about the reading tables obviously very much at home.

Their recognition of the fact that its existence is an expression of real interest in their welfare thus shows itself to the army and navy they come for chats with comrades, to write letters home or to sit at one of the long tables and while away the time by reading newspaper or magazine while some comrade, as yesterday, takes to the piano and gives the crowd some music.

Where are you going tonight, Jim? "Down to the Army and Navy." Which speaks for itself. There is no doubt about it—the Army and Navy has scored with the men.

On the tables of the reading room are to be found some fifty magazines, together with the leading Canadian papers and some American. All of them have been contributed by the congregation of St. Mary's, in generous response to cards posted in the porch giving intimation that they will be welcomed.

The Reverend Rector of St. Mary's Cathedral, Dr. Foley, very generously gave the use of the hall for club uses, rent free, but nevertheless the running expenses total a little over \$2,000 a year and it is supported largely through the generosity of the cathedral parish, both St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's having assisted the work at times.

A MINISTER'S JUBILEE STATISTICS

A Protestant minister in a New England town who recently observed the golden jubilee of his entrance into his church's pulpit found the occasion an appropriate one for publishing the statistics of his parish for the last fifty years. He presents figures which the thoughtful will doubtless consider quite significant.

For this pastor of this "very good parish" has baptized during the past half century only 125 children, or less than three a year, though he celebrated 315 marriages within that period. It should be said, however, that a good proportion of his flock probably did not think it worth while to bring their rare little ones to the font for baptism.

earliest footsteps of the lambs of his flock, and whose later functions at the confirmation of the young Christian are an event in the life not only of the new communicant but of his entire family.

Apposite and just as the foregoing reflections are, the minister's fifty years' statistics should bring home to old New Englanders another lesson which is of such vital importance that they should learn it at once, unless indeed they are ready to see their race completely die out.

CAMPAIN OF CALUMNIES AND WAR GRIEVE PONTIFF

Rome, June 14.—The Osservatore Romano has published a Papal autograph letter sent in answer to an address received by the Pontiff from the episcopacy of Lombardy.

He adds that he is greatly affected "not only by the inexcusable horrors of this War, which, without parallel in the history of the world, threatens to drag poor Europe to the bottom of the abyss, but also by an invidious and skillful campaign of calumny and hatred against the person of the Pontiff and his work."

UNDERSTANDING

Once upon a time a certain timorous Frenchman who was visiting in the country expressed to his host some misgivings he felt regarding the barking dog that barred the way.

It is one of the disadvantages of the position of the New England Protestant minister that his work, in the long run, tends to degenerate into a sort of mortuary function. His success in the parish really seems to be measured by the number of people he has managed to bury.

PRISONERS OF WAR IN TURKEY AND BULGARIA

Post Office Department, Canada. Ottawa, June 19th, 1918.

A notification has been received from the British Authorities to the effect that the Parcel Post Service for Prisoners of War in Turkey or Bulgaria is at present suspended.

Two teachers wanted with first and second class certificates for S.S. No. 5, Crystol. Must be able to teach French and English. Salary \$200 and \$300. Duties to commence in September. Apply at once to Jerry Page, Sec.-Treas. Crystol, Ont. 2079-3.

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