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THE AMERICAN COMMISSION ON CONDITIONS IN IRELAND

Though little appears in our Canadian papers about the Commission now taking evidence in Washington as to conditions in Ireland there is any government. But it is backed an occasional sneering reference to by a steadily increasing momentum it. And occasionally, also, we receive an enquiry regarding it.

Those of our readers who wish to work of this Commission we should advise to buy or subscribe for The national crisis." Nation (20 Vessy St., New York.) It devoted to progressive thought and to honest and fearless discussion of current events. Indeed the Man- darity." chester Guardian recently referred to The Nation as the most fearless | Herbert Adams Gibbons writes : journal in the world.

In a recent number (Dec. 15th) is given an account of the formation of and not simply setting forth sugared the Commission, its purpose and mode of procedure, as well as the testimony taken up to the time of going to press.

horror." priety or the utility of the Commis-

Summing up the condition of

rigorous military repression, violent outbreaks against this repression, and widespread military reprisals in he form of murder, arson, and the destruction of property.'

"It is this deplorable situation that has led to the creation of the American Commission on Conditions in Ireland, a body pledged to a thorough and impartial investigation of the whole Irish situation, in the hope that a basis of facts will be established which will suggest a way to peace and justice in Ireland. The parent body of the Commission was a large committee of representative Americans, summoned together through the good offices of the editors of the New York Nation. Every effort was made to gather a body of men thoroughly representative of all shades of American opinion. Every United States Senator was invited, the Governor of every State, every Protestant Episcopal, Methodist and Roman Catholic Bishop, and prominent citizens distinguished in every department of civil effort. The Committee includes five Governors, ten Senators, a dozen Congressmen, the Mayors of fifteen large cities, Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Kane, and four Catholic Bishops, seven Protestant Episcopal Bishops, four Methodist Bishops, priests, educators, editors, business men, and labor leaders. This body elected the Commission from its own membership."

It is considered a sort of hyperpatriotism to speak of "the two great Anglo-Saxon nations " as so wedded overwhelming vote in its favor in by bleed and language and culture. by interest and ideals that it is ous intimations—perhaps more or criminal to think of their ever clashing in a death-struggle fer been given out that it would be the latter of its theroughly unrepresupremacy. That the Angle Saxon rejected by the Senate. element in the American population

1.

to it simply dismiss the eighty-five per cent. as hyphenates.

the Anglo Saxon. And to millions of Canadians. hyphenate of them all.

Nation:

"The Commission was formed with the idea that the American Britain and the United States."

The next paragraph answers

"In these circumstances the Commission is summoned to perform a high public service in the cause of peace. It is wholly an unofficial body. Its conclusions and reports will have no binding authority on of public opinion, desirous of helping to bring to an end an intolerable situation between two neighbor keep informed on the very important peoples with whom we shared the hardships and perils of a great inter-

In the December Century is an is an old and influential publication article by an American, who boasts of pure British blood," entitled The Bases of Anglo-Saxon Soli-

During the course of this article

"Consequently, if we are honestly working for Auglo-Saxon solidarity 'pap' for public consumption, we shall on both sides tackle courageously short comings in following ideals not because we love to criti-"The tragedy of the situation in cize, but because this is the only way Ireland," says the editor, "is the con- we can remove sources of friction cern of humane people everywhere. that threaten to disrupt Anglo-Saxon It is a tragedy that has moved from solidarity. In regard to Germany, crisis to crisis, piling horror on Great Britain has acted admirably, and is living up to her ideals of fair No one who has any faith in the play and of not kicking the other at the polls. League of Nations, or in the ideals fellow when he is down. In regard of which the League professes to be to Ireland, on the other hand, we an imperfect embodiment, no one have a question that must be settled who believes in the association or before genuine good feeling is estabcooperation of nations for the main- lished among the Anglo-Saxon States tenance of peace and the progress of | Speaking for Ireland and not against civilization, can question the pro- ber is the highest wisdom for the Anglo-Saxon propagandist in the United States. It proves that he

> friandship." fatuous sycophancy which masquer ades as "British" loyalty. There is nothing more un British than the present British Government's course in Ireland. British ideals are enunciated by the Asquiths, the Greys, the Bentincks, the Gardiners of England and not by those who, vested with a little brief authority, have befouled the very name British until in comparison Hua and Turk small

sweeter in civilized nostrils. The Commission now sitting in Washington has, according to the opening statement of its Chairman, Dr. Fraderick C. Howe, "received assurances of cordial cooperation from liberal-minded groups in England, who are also deeply concerned over the state of civil war that prevails in Ireland. It has received similar assurances from British labor groups and from British statesmen, as well as from organizations in Ire-

land." We shall have something further to say about this important under. taking at a later date.

ANTI-GOVERNMENT AND ANTI-GOD

What may be the fate of the Johnson bill, which provides for practically the complete stoppage of immigration into the United States for one year, is uncertain. Daspite an the Heuse of Representatives numer-

What is certain is that some is only about fitteen per cent. does pewerful influence or influences are that controls secondary schools "patriotic" bragging. Those addicted direct representatives of the people body of taxpayers who contribute further "clearances" of the Celts The potato blight was due to natural of the war between himself and a siderable staff of stenographers and not affect at all this blatant form of at work to thwart the will of the should be accountable to the whole

neighbors. During the course of the | maintenance.

he said :

" Because certain consular officers people are so closely bound by ties of report an excess of Jews seeking itage to both the English and the bill has to be assaulted as an anti-Irish peoples that the tragedy in Ire- Semitic bill," continued the Chair- us out under any consideration. land is a matter of their deepest man. "Not so. I care not whether concern. Its implications threaten the influx is Jewish, Moslem, Pagan, shows the necessity of emphasis and a break between the American Buddist, Christian or what not. The repetition in order to get some people and the people of Great country does not want it. It brings people to understand the bare facts Britain so serious as to be a menace too many who are anti-Government of the case: to future relations between Great and anti-God. While engaged in cleaning house we don't want any more bread-lines than we can help. another question that has been put I warn you that this country cannot that ever came to the United States."

Now Canada has no consular reports to give information or cause
Now, why should a Collegiate In.
Now, why should a Collegiate In.
Anne the horrible scheme of the solarm. Penal Laws was devised to make life was informed of the arrival of many one religious sect, and that one far intelerable to an Irishman in Ire-Jews from places whence the Canadian Government is permitting no immigration to this country. We strenuously objected to the deportation of these Jawish immigrants, and were willing to give a bond for any become a charge on public charity.

It is no reflection on the Jawish people as a whole, but it is never- land or Jew. At present, all the theless a fact that in many parts of pupils are taught alike; all are on Europe the Jaws are the most active terms of equality and this state of revolutionaries, the most ardent apostles of Bolshevism.

Mr. Johnson's solemn warning, which he avers is based on a study of consular reports, may afford our own immigration authorities some considerations that should be seriously taken into account.

ALL ARE NOT TREATED ALIKE Before this issue of the CATHOLIC RECORD will have reached its readers the London Collegiate Institute the Bishop's Plan," question will have been decided Macklin misses entirely the point

In that decision no Catholic will

have had a voice. Education will have been chosen in this matter. Let me state it without a single Catholic vots for or again. against any candidate no matter what policy he or she may have advocated.

The Board of Education that will control the expenditure involved every Catholic citizen supporters equally with the supporters of the Public Schools will be maintenance of these schools.

A plain case of taxation without representation.

This is in no sense a local ing of the Collegiate Institute here mere and the consequent problems arising for solution merely offer a concrete illustration of the unfair and unjustifiable treatment of Catholics with regard to secondary education.

As we have already said we believe that we have precisely the same legal and constitutional right to Separate High Schools that we have to Separate Elementary Schools The High School Act of 1870 did not curtail or restrict or take away any educational rights enjoyed under the Separate Schools Act of 1863 It did not, for the simple reason that the British North America Act expressly excluded the power to do so from the Legislature of the

province. Placing the High Schools of the province virtually under the control of the Public School Boards while taxing Separate School ratepayers for their erection and maintenance is as undemocratic as it is indefensible and unjust.

Allowing Separate School Beards to appoint representatives to the less in the nature of feelers—have Beard of Education dees not relieve sentative character.

Every single member of the Board

School situation.

and maintain it out of Catholic taxes exclusively.

But some people who won't let us blood and by a common cultural her- passport vises at certain places, this in on equal footing—except in the

The following correspondence

AGAINST BISHOP'S PLAN

Editor Free Press : It was stated in the newspapers that at a public II. fresh confiscations were made. meeting held in the city last Friday stand this influx. The immigration Bishop Fallon advocated the building coming now is the most undesirable of three Collegiate Institutes in London, one of which to be for the sole use of the Roman Catholic population of the city.

> from being the largest. is not likely to receive the approval of the people.

The Collegiate Institute has herewere told that Jaws in Canada tofore been used as a place where the rudiments of education obtained by pupils attending the Public schools may be further increased and where our young may be better fitted for time desired that they would not citizenship and not as a place where religious dogma may be taught by any favored sect, whether Romanist, Christian Scientist, Church of Engthings should continue if happiness and prosperity be desired.

On looking over the last Dominion cansus I find the population of the City of London by religions to contain 13 106 Church of England, 12,960 Methodists, 8,000 Presbyterians, 5,262 Why should the Roman Catholics. least of those four have special treatment when all are treated alike.

HENRY MACKLIN. London, December 21, 1920.

BISHOP FALLON EXPLAINS Editor Free Press; In his letter which appears in your issue of this date, under the heading, "Against the Bishop's Plan," Mr. Henry and the reason of my recent remarks on the Collegiate Institute question. I was then simply setting forth the

distinct and indefensible grisvance The personnel of the Board of under which Catholics are laboring The citizens of London are dis cussing with much interest a public educational policy of great moment,

involving the expenditure of a very large sum of public money. Though heritage of which he boasts, and that in building, equipping and main-"The whole situation appears to be entangled in a vicious circle or greatest obstacles to Anglo-American rigorous military repression vicions."

The whole situation appears to be is anxious to remove one of the greatest obstacles to Anglo-American or more High Schools will not London will bear its share of the will have to provide the money. taxpayer will contribute equally We have ourselves protested vigor.

The Board, elected exclusively by with non Catholics to the maintenance of the new Collegiate Insti-Public School supporters, can not be tute or institutes, no Catholic citizen representative of the Separate School can give effective expression to his ratepayers. Yet the Separate School views on the question of policy, and was in that House, nor could be; nor toria, the policy was to be brought no Catholic taxpayer may cast a vote in matter where his property is involved and his taxes are expended. taxed for the building, equipping and This is taxation without representa- House. tion : and taxation without represen tation is tyranny.

Perhaps Mr. Macklin will tell us if he approves a situation where—to use his own enumeration—"Christian question. The same conditions Scientist, Church of England or Jew" obtain all over Ontario. The burn- may register his vote, while the 'Romanist," though taxed, is

disfranchised. M. F. FALLON, Bishop of London. London, Dec. 22.

Our own conviction is that this question should be pressed to a satisfactory settlement now.

If we can't get in on equal terms let us establish our right to get out

ENGLISH POLICY AND IRISH DEMOCRACY BY THE OBSERVER

In the reign of Elizabeth, the policy of English rule in Ireland was to remove the Irish people, and to substitute English settlers in their stead. Elizabeth's generals boasted they had given Ireland to her "nothing but carcasses and ashes."

Under James I. and Charles I. the cared which,) on the mountains and million of mere Celts. characterized English comment on Ireland, the descendants of those illtreated people have since then been called "bog-trotters."

Next came Cromwell, under whom

slavery in the West Indies. Stuart Ireland, he would be unwelmade.

Then came James II.; by whom some few items of justice were given; and again Ireland fought for the worthless Stuarts. Scotland did the same thing even a half century later. and is honored for it. But Ireland could not be honored for anything. And so, in the final defeat of James

William III. became firmly seated on the English throne; and at once confiscation took a fresh start in Ireland. Under him and under Queen Anne the horrible scheme of the land.

Then, too, began the systematic destruction of Irish industries. Even The London Post, one of the bitterest "Unionist" papers in England, says that is a story of crime and shame.

After all this, it was inevitable that famine should raise its fearful head. The lands were now securely placed in the hands of a few; and that few a corrupt, profligate and absentee aristocracy, who used Ireland merely as a leech uses a victim; to suck blood, and to give nothing.

As soon as famines began English politicians announced that emigration was the oure for Ireland's ills; not, however, emigration to England; which was hampared as much as possible.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century, the first heavy emigration took place; and it is interesting to note that it was mainly from Ulster. But now at last a check was put to the traditional English policy of removing the Celis. The Parliament of Ireland, in which no Catholic was allowed to sit, was animated by a in which their forefathers lived a brief flash of genuine patriotism. For a century it had been wholly subservient to the English Parliafreed itself from that subserviency; and for eighteen years it was, nominparliament. This show of spirit and on "Colonization from Ireland." the English policy of "clearing" Ire- brought up to date. Elizabeth,

land of the Celts. In 1800, the Parliament of Ireland, chased outright; that is, a majority of But they left them to live in Ireland, the members sold out; some for cash; if they could manage to live at all. some for office and titles. No Catholic In the middle of the reign of Vicany Catholic eligible for the English | well, and William III. had colonized

This is the "Union," which Ireland to "colonize from Ireland." has been trying ever since to break. lowest rates."

£21,000,000; and charged Ireland democracy.

Commission began its work. It was better taken care of, and better fed, composed entirely of landlords; and than the "overstock tenantry." its report was in favor of further ilies."

That is, the Commission advocated the cottages in Ireland. the removal of a million persons from the land. As to how they were

Chairman, Lard Deven, has ever English politicians.

Well, the Great Famine came-

This, of course, is the affair of our the money for their erection and took place; and they were sold into causes; but even that was prevent- dead man, Lord Kitchener, said that able; and the Government had been the cause of the present troubles in When Charles II. came to the warned by one of its own Royal Com- Ireland was, that there were too the frish are a greater factor in brought to light that may be in many of Bishop Fallon's trenchant throne, the Celts hoped for some missions of all that was liable to many young men in the country who every way in American life than is structive as well as interesting to analysis of the anomalous High justice; for, despite all the ill usage happen; just as it did happen. The would have emigrated but for the On that occasion as was quite they had remained faithful to Charles potato was the clear, inevitable, net Anglo-Saxon-American is the most tion Committee stated emphatically natural, almost inevitable, after I. But Charles II. had one main result of the whole total sum of aggressive and the most offensive that the influx of aliens is serious pointing out the fact that Catholics principle upon which to base his English policy and law in Ireland up and dangerous. And he based his were equally taxed without equal policy; which was, in his own words, to that time. At the commencement This consideration is courteously assertions on consular reports voice in the control of tax expendi- that whatever might happen he was of the Famine, Ireland was caught, as but firmly pressed home by The handed him by the State Depart. ture, the Bishop offered to take over not going to set out again on his she has so often been caught, bement. In the course of his speech one of the proposed schools, erect travels; and he quite accurately tween the upper and nether millforesaw that unless he sacrificed stone of English politics. The great question of free trade in food; of the come on the throne of Stuart Eng. Repeal of the Corn Laws, was then The money was for the purpose of land. So the previous confiscations agitating the two English parties; matter of taxes—do not want to let were confirmed; and fresh ones and the exigencies of partyism repeasants were dying like flies in a

> Well, let that go; it's a terrific subject. England began to relieve the famine when it was nearly over: but on what terms? Every man who took outdoor relief, had to give up his farm but a quarter acre; more of the press descriptive of the ways "clearances." The Famine had and wiles of a certain type of the wholesale clauses brought about McArthur, author of "The Affable by the panic of the landlords, and Stranger," relates a recent experience seas another million.

frost.

Was the policy of "clearances" ingratiating compliments, how his now thought to have reached a poems had been a great solace to reasonable success? Not at all a lonely Danish soldier who was The gentle, democratic spirit of patrolling on the frontier during the English statesmanship had further Great War-and would Mr. McArthur proposals to make. The London send him a autographed copy of his Times openly rejoiced that "the poems, which the ex-soldier would Celts are gone;" that "England now prize among his most valued posseshas Ireland for the first time at her sions? mercy, and can do with her exactly as she pleases;" and that "great journal" predicted that in a few years a Celt very much gratified. But he has in Ireland would be as rare as an been a newspaper man, and having Indian in America.

most distressing tragedy of a He began wondering how the lonely century !

The cry was still for "clearances." On Feburary 22ad, 1847, The Times poems. Presently he remembered an said:

the Ganges, or the Indus,-to Delhi, Benares, or Timcomalce,- and they would be far more in their element idea. He wrote to his friend, Arthur there than in the country to which Stringer, and asked him it by any an inexcrable fate has confined possibility his poems had given great them."

That is to say, the Celts would do well anywhere except in the country thousand years before Christ; and from which there came the missionaries who made the first converts to ment; and had had no power to Christianity in Britain, before the originate legislation. In 1782 it German Angles and Saxons came to

"the sister island." A select Committee of the House ally if not actually, an independent of Lords reported, in the same year, independence blocked for the time The policy of "clearances" was being James, and William III. mersly drove the Celts off the lands their foreafter years of scheming, was pur. fathers had tilled for 2,700 years.

into Ireland; now it was proposed

There was a reason. One might At once, the "clearing" policy went suppose that the Famine having op. As early as 1820, advertisements kindly "cleared" two and a half were published in Irish papers: million persons, that that would be "To landlords: Notice: Overstock enough. But no: Ireland is a pro. Tenantry carried to America at ductive land: in every year of the famine years, she exported enough Famine recurred ever and ever food to feed her whole population more frequently. In 1817, England twice over; cattle, beaf, pork, etc.; consolidated" the national debts of but that was the land kings' share the two countries; charged herself the rotten potatoes were the people's with Ireland's debt, which was share. That, we are to suppose, was

with hers, which was £446,000,000. The land-kings began to see that And Ireland has been paying interest money was to be made in cattle; on that "consolidation" ever since. and cattle it was from that time on In 1844 the Landlord and Tenant | The cattle, it may be observed, were

From that day to this, the cattle 'clearances;" saying: "The calcu- policy has prevailed; and "clearlation is put forward, showing that ances" have been steadily promoted. the consolidation of the small hold. There are living yet in Canada and ings up to eight acres, would require the United States hundreds of thouthe removal of about 192,368 fam. sands of persons who saw the crowbar brigades levelling the walls of

In 1846, Ireland had nine million people and four million cattle. In same policy was pursued. Ulster to live after removal, a few careless 1915, she had four and a half million was "planted;" and the Celts were words about unreclaimed land were people and ten million cattle. There chased out to live or dis, (no one thought sufficient to dispose of a is one of the triumphs of democracy in British history.

And is the policy of "clearances" delicate humor which has always Commission, from the name of the new given up? By no means. It Time," "Who's Who," and every has been steadily advocated in every other biographical manual he could since then been the Bible of Angle. year since the Famine; though Irish politics to the general run of within the past ten or fifteen years, it is labelled "assisted emigration." Only last year, Lord French, hero

NOTES AND COMMENTS

A MARYLAND physician is suing a spiritualistic medium for the recovery of \$60,000 which he entrusted to her keeping some years ago on the strength of an alleged communication from the late Clara Barton, foundress of the American Red Cross. a memorial to the deceased lady. The memorial was never erected, quired that the Famine become a however, and the doctor now wants debate in England, whilst the Irish his money back. Another physician, Dr. Arthur Conan Doyle, is now seeing fairies. Which circumstances seem to prove that a scientific education is not in itself proof against credulity.

A PARAGRAPH is going the rounds "cleared" a million and a half; but so called "collector." Mr. Peter directly promoted by "the quarter thus: "A short time ago he received a acre clause," drove to death or over- flattering postcard from Denmark, in which the writer told him, with many

" NATURALLY, Mr. McArthur was associated much with politicians, he And this, just after the greatest and confesses to a low, suspicious nature. Danish soldier got his home address, which is not given in the book of anthology in which his address is "Remove Irishmen to the banks of given, and on consulting it found that it was identical with that used by the soldier. That gave him an solace to a lonely Danish soldier patrolling the frontier during the Great War. Then he told of his suspicions. By the next mail he received a humorously wrathful letter from Mr. Stringer acknowledg. ing that his poems had also comforted " The Melancholy Dane." Inquiry soon established the fact that the Danish collector had written in the same strain to every Canadian author represented in the anthology. It would be interesting to know if American poets whose poems appear in anthologies also comforted the lonely Danish soldier."

> THIS IS but another manifestation of the crafty nature of the tribe. It is not unknown on this continent, though, by reason of a more highly developed "market," Europe is its real home. We use the word market" advisedly for behind the artless manuar of Mr. McArthur's soldier " as past experience proves, will be found a cunningly-thoughtout and deeply-laid financial scheme, the same in kind if not in degree, as the perennial "Spanish Prisoner" fraud which has baffled international police for several decades.

WE CALL to mind one of the most brazen if not most amusing incidents of the kind which some twenty years ago emanated from the State of Texas. The Lone Star State is not usually reckoned as the natural home of literary enterprise, but it produced at least one individual who, along the line of the Danish 'Soldier," quite outdid all competitors, at home or abroad. He is dead now, and his great scheme forgotten, but his heirs are many thousands of dollars to the good as a result of his efforts.

THE SCHEME was simply this. The individual in question formed himsels into the Trinity Historical Society of Texas. He was the President, the Treasurer, the Sacretary, the Board of Governors, and the entire list of members. No other person shared with him these high honors. He had stationery, by laws and cards of membership printed and then armed with "Men or the lay his hands upon proceeded to launch his campaign.

HE MUST have employed a con-