

### GREAT MISSION IN ST. MARY'S.

The following report which appeared in last Monday's Tribune, gives a good idea of the excellent impression produced by the Passionate missionaries.

Among the most impressive and forceful sermons ever addressed to a Winnipeg congregation, was that preached at St. Mary's last evening in connection with the mission opened yesterday by the Passionist Fathers.

"What doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world but lose his own soul?" was selected by the missionary, Father Cunningham, C.P., as his text; one rather trite from usage, but the theme more specifically, narrowed down to the thought, "What is the value of a soul?" The speaker in opening deplored the engrossment of the typical modern business man, concentrating all his energies to the utter exclusion of solicitude for his soul. Valuating the soul on a worldly basis, that is according to its beauty, and its lastingness, the preacher proceeded to develop these considerations.

Even physically considered, the soul is so superior to anything that may be here below, he went on to show. Unlike the poor body, which always inclines to fall of its own weight, "the soul ever soars higher and higher, even as the lark rises and whirls aloft and aloft until it finally disappears from the range of vision." And proceeding, with gradually increasing gesture of dramatic beauty and strength and impassioned oratory, the preacher continued: "So the soul soars higher and higher until it stands not only at the threshold of heaven; no! but before the very presence of God! Here to expand in the infinite joy of the beatific vision for eternity!" The climax, to the minds of the audience swept along in the discourse was thrilling and beautiful.

#### Beauty of the Soul.

The other climax of the sermon especially impressive dealt with the inherent beauty of the soul. The Father drew a picture of the babe in the cradle, the scene that always provokes love and delight in the heart of anyone; and on the other hand, the body in the grave; detailing the repellent gruesomeness of it all. Why the difference? Only because the soul in all its beauty had left the poor clay body. Death now domineered. And yet how lasting is the soul! "Generation after generation shall pass, and still the soul lives; age succeeds age, and still the soul lives; nation shall supplant nation; the great mountains shall be cut away by the breezes of the wind, until not an atom remains, everything material in the universal creation shall cease to be—and still the soul lives, lives in bliss with God, of heaven forbid, in hell with eternal damnation." In conclusion, the preacher showed the value of the soul, a value created by the sanguineous passion and death of the Saviour, one drop of whose blood is of infinite value—and how many drops were shed during the last week of His life?

#### Auspicious Opening.

The mission opened very auspiciously at the High Mass in the morning, attended by a congregation so large that chairs were necessary to augment the capacity of the Church. The missionary Fathers, Revs. Father Albert Phelan, of Chicago, and Hubert Cunningham, of Kansas, were met at the main door by the priests and altar boys of the parish and proceeded in procession to the main altar, where a high crucifix, with a figure of the Saviour was erected near the pulpit, to remain there during the fortnight of the mission services. Rev. Father Phelan delivered the opening sermon, using a powerful voice with telling effect. He showed "how good God is" in His acts of mercy towards sinners, and concluded with the thought: "The mission time is the acceptable time for all." Twice during the discourse the big congregation was visibly moved by the eloquence of the preacher.

Because of the size of the parish this week will be devoted to the evenings to the women exclusively, beginning at 7.30 o'clock, but the mission masses, also daily, at 5.30

and 9 o'clock are open to men also. Instructions will be given at both masses. Services for the children will be held this and tomorrow afternoons at 4 o'clock. Confessions for the women will begin tomorrow evening. Non-Catholics are welcome to the services, morning and evening. The invitation is extended by the missionaries. Nothing offending anyone will be preached, but an opportunity is at hand to hear a clear exposition of Catholic doctrine, free from polemical acerbity.

#### FATHER DUGAS HONORED.

One of the best of the many good entertainments given by the students of St. Boniface, was that of Monday evening, 16th inst., when the students gave a high class musical and scientific entertainment. The occasion was the Feast day of the College Rector, which was taken advantage of by the boys to present him with two well worded addresses, one being in French and the other in English. At 8.15 when the Rector entered the hall accompanied by Governor Sir Daniel McMillan, Rev. Dr. Patrick, of Manitoba College; Rev. Canon Murray, and Rev. E. M. Phair, of St. John's College, Chief Justice Dubuc, Rev. Dr. Beliveau, and other priests, and many of the leading citizens of Winnipeg and St. Boniface, there was not a vacant seat in the hall, and standing room was at a premium.

After the overture "Grande Marche de St. Boniface" by the College orchestra, came the French address by A. Laurendeau. This was followed by one in English read by J. O. Plante, admirably written and as admirably read.

Mr. J. Mondor next proceeded to give an historical introduction to the different themes to be considered under the heading "Aerial Navigation," which he did fluently and succinctly. "First Attempts and Successes," was the subject of Mr. Beaupre's essay. The essay in itself was particularly pleasing, whilst it was delivered in a manner which reflects great credit on the young speaker.

Mr. J. B. Tremblay, St. Boniface's well known tenor, then sang, with much effect the charming solo "Dreaming" by Wellings.

Part II. of the Scientific part of the programme was then proceeded with, Mr. J. Walsh giving an essay on "Aeronautics and Science." This essay was instructive as well as entertaining. Indeed the same may be said of all the essays—they were extremely practical in their nature. Mr. Walsh, before retiring introduced Mr. J. H. McDougall, B.L., who talked entertainingly on the airship in its relation to war.

Perhaps the most interesting part of all was the discussion on the "Direction of Balloons" between L. P. Beaubien, B.A., and N. Bellevance. They were heartily applauded at the conclusion.

Rev. Father Dugas, in his reply emphasised the importance of the students cultivating the virtues of docility and obedience. He showed how he as their rector had to fill the dual role of father and rector. He counselled them against the false, unhealthy spirit of independence now unfortunately so common in the world—a spirit which tends not onward and upward, but rather toward retrogression. The Rev. Father was very happy in his remarks, and closed by expressing heartfelt thanks to the distinguished audience who thus honored him by attending in such large numbers.

Much credit is due Fathers Blain, S.J., and de Manglecère, S.J., for the practical help they extended to the boys in making the entertainment the success it undoubtedly was.

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