T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

POLITICAL INTRIGUE RAMPANT IN ENGLAND

CABINET SECRETS BETRAYED TO THE

PRESS pecial Cable to the CATHOLIC RECORD (Copyright 1916, Central News)

London, July 1 .- Once more the whole Irish scene has undergone a transformation. Last week Ireland held the centre of the stage and acute anxiety existed as to the decision of the Nationalist conference in Ulster where a formidable body of opinion including a large majority of the priests, were known to be in uncompromising hostility to the proposed settlement and already four bishops had declared publicly their conden nation of the confidence of all Irish men. However, in Mr. Devlin's cour age, persuasiveness, tenacity, and his strong hold on the affection, confidence and trust of Ulster made them certain he would win, as he did

quite triumphantly. The final stage so far as Irish Nationalists are concerned, was reached when Mr. Redmond was authorized at a meeting of the Irish Party last Monday to announce their acceptance of the Lloyd George scheme. Then there came a new transformation for the vehement campaign carried on by the Ultra-Unionists reached the cabinet and made the situation of every Unionist Minister difficult and wavering. Lord Lansdowne, and Walter Long were known to share the views of Lord Selborne and ready to follow him in resignation, but the position still is uncertain of Bonar Law and Austin Chamberlain, while Arthur Balfour, in spite of his old record as a coercionist Minister, has ardently, consistently supported the settlement. But Bonar Law and Mr. Chamberlain would find it difficult to remain in the majority if the Tory party voted against the settlement.

Thus the position still remains uncertain. Some respite has been obtained by postponement of the Tory meeting till next week, and active efforts are being made by Mr. Lloyd George to keep the cabinet together. I still believe he will succeed and that the Home Rule Ministry and Home Rule Parliament will come into existence within a few months from now; but at the moment the situation is very difficult.

We are passing through one of the most extraordinary phases of Parlia-mentary life in England that has ever been seen. The most remarkable characteristic is the feverishness one finds everywhere, and feverishness is not a usual quality with English men or indeed English women. Nor is political intrigue an art in which they shine, and which they usually love. But intrigue is more rampant today than at any moment since the days of the Stuarts and the first Hanoverian kings. And on top of all is the strange new part which journalism is playing in this grim and world-wide tragedy.

To realize what is going on one has but to take up the newspaper any day, and you will find strange and unprecedented things. One of the strangest of these things is that some papers profess to give-and as a matter of fact do give—full reports of the substance at least of the discussions at Cabinet Councils. In one case there was what professed to be the substance of a confidential report by the Army Council—the highest military authority in the country, next of course to the Cabinet. What is perhaps more reasonable is that you find different newspapers, giving, different Ministers in favor of their particular views. And this has led to the almost shocking scandal of these Ministers giving to each other the lie in public and making terrible charges of the violation of the oath of secrecy which is supposed to bind all Cabinet Ministers with regard to the Cabinet secrets. And finally the climax came when the Government itself had to issue an ordinance that any revelation of the Cabinet dis-cussion would be regarded as a violation of the Defense of the Realm Act-the most stringent war measure that has ever been adopted in so liberty loving a country as England.

What is the secret of all this? Of course the first great cause is the absence of any great victories in the field. This is always the fate of a war Ministry, whatever the age, whatever the country. Abraham Lincoln had to pass through criticism as violent, through hours as dark as those which now hurtle around Asquith. The second cause is the uneasy sense that bad blunders have been committed— in Gallipoli, in Mesopotamia, in the diplomacy in the Balkans, which gave Bulgaria to Germany, and Greece and Roumania to neutrality. The third reason is undoubtedly the personality and the power of Lord Northcliffe. And there is a fourth cause intimately associated with this —namely the spirit of the soldiers, especially in the region of the War Office. And fifthly, associated also with the other two, the strong resolve there is in many quarters, especially in high social circles, to plant conscription as a permanent institution in Great Britain

The importance of Lord North-cliffe is that he controls so many newspapers, in whole or in part. He is the chief owner of the Times, of the Daily Mail, of the Weekly Dispatch, and a brother, Harold Harms worth, now Lord Rothermore, has another daily paper or two in Leeds and in Glasgow. I am bound to add the two brothers do not see eye to

eye on everything-I believe they are in accord with each other as to their attitude to the war policy of the government. The Times reaches the official and the diplomatic as well as social classes, the Daily Mail reaches the man in the street, and the man in the street is against the government, as the poll of nearly eight thousand for Mr. Kennedy Jones in Wimbledon proved, as well as the return of Mr. Pemberton Billing for such a stodgy Tory constituency as

East Herts. In addition to all these there is the tremendous and incessant agitation in high social circles. The conscriptionists count many important forceful men. They have, for instance, Lord Milner, who. in spite of his South African record, still exercises great influences, especially in military circles. They have in the War Office itself Captain Amery —a tiny little man scarcely five feet high, but with the energy of a forty horse power dynamo. Captain Amery is in addition an active Parliamentarian and an active journalist. In the House of Commons he

may be trusted always to say the bitterest thing—though in private he is quite pleasant. When Asquith was announcing to a thrilled and alarmed House of Commons the prospect of a break-up of the Ministry, Captain Amery shouted out word of insult—and there was a tremendous howl from the Liberals who resented this attack on their leader and on the decorum of a solemn situation. Then, of course, there are ladies great and small whose violent partisanship for husband or brother or son lend additional vehemence to their always indiscreet tongues; and things are said and then repeated with a virulence that a barbed tongue can give; and of that personal and family venom of allusion which is again one of the weapons and the weakness of a feminine campaign.

The truth is that great principles are fighting out perhaps one of their last fights, and that this accounts for the fierce and continuous movement of rival forces behind the On the one side are those who honestly fear the Prussianization of England, and have opposed conscription as the beginning of that disastrous process. They do not fear without reason, for one hears from military circles some wild proposals for dealing with strikes, con scientious objectors and pacifists, which are just in the spirit of Prussianism. On the other side there are zealous conscriptionists who on the one hand are convinced that without conscription it is impos sible to win the war as decisively as is necessary; and on the other hand have always held that conscription must come and ought to come. these conflicting forces, Asquith and Lloyd George have been forced by circumstances into the rival

champions. Thus it is that these two distinguished men are not divided by personal antagonism in the least-for personally they have always gotten together-butare being ranged against each other by the two contending forces. Mr. Asquith, cool, cautious, with a nerve that is rarely lost, who can sleep his eight hours every night after ten minutes over a book -who has a splendid art of managing men, who is acceptable to a large number of Englishmen because he is so tially English in his character-- Mr. Asquith has istics every Liberal member of the Cabinet with him. Mr. Lloyd George, impulsive, resolute, even obstinate, of ou find different newspapers, giving, coording to their color and to their indencies, what are pleas by controversy-is regarded as the man to press things forward. He has been in favor of conscription for years, and announced his views upon it at an early stage of the war. He wants universal conscription immediately. Mr. Asquith thinks, that see ing the traditional habits and prejudices of the British people, it is possible to get it only by slow and gradual

> The position of the Unionist mem bers of the Cabinet between these two policies is rather delicate. On personal grounds most of them are rather more favorable to Asquith than

to Lloyd George. For the moment the divisions have been patched up, and they may remain patched up; but such differences of principle are nearly always accompanied by personal animosities, as an Irish politician who went through the Parnell split can testify, and thus the situation remains obscure. And the tragedy of it all is that the spirit of the people in England grows in intensity and ferocity; and never was there a more violent feeling against even a whisper of peace, except a peace on conditions that Germany will never accept till she is thoroughly beaten. I dwell in a sentence on this last act as the controlling one of the whole situation. This minister may go or that; there may be more shuffling, but the people remain steady, deter-mined, irreconcilable, ruthless. Zeppelins and submarines have done their work in producing this temper. It cannot be changed.

THE POPE

AND THE COMING PEACE CONGRESS

There is considerable discussion going on in Italian reviews and periodicals concerning the part periodicals concerning the part which the Holy See should take in the congress of nations which will probably be held at the close of the war for the purpose of discussing peace proposals and readjusting political conditions in Europe. Some time ago it was currently reported that a pacs had been entered into between the Allies that, in the event of such a congress taking place, the Pope should not be admitted to participate in its deliberations as would only bring up the question of the Temporal Power, a reconsideration of which Italy would not consent to.

This report, whether well founded or not, has aroused considerable dis-cussion in Italy. The Catholic publications taking part in the disc assert that the question of the Temporal Power need not be brought up, and that the part which the Holy Father ought to take in the coming congress should not be made conditional upon his temporal sovereignty but on the great moral power which he could exercise and which is a vital part of his spiritual sovereignty. Nor could the Italian government, with any degree of consistency, protest against the Holy Father's participation in these peace deliberations because of the Law of Guarantees which assures the Pope the fullest liberty in the exercise of his spiritual jurisdiction. Any protest which it make would directly contravene the assurance given in the Law of Guarantees that the Supreme Pontiff is free to exercise his spiritual sovereignty without interference on the part of the Italian authorities.

It must be very evident to every intelligent student of history that the power of the Pope is immense in maintaining and enforcing the moral law of nations. Since the beginning of the war, the Holy Father has lost no opportunity to bring about an amelioration of the conditions produced by this world conflict. He has succeeded in obtaining better treatment for the prisoners of war of all nations, has effected an exchange of many of them, and has aroused the whole Christian world to a realization of the duty of praying for a cessation of hostilities. While doing this, he is patiently awaiting a favorable opportunity to intervene in an effective way in the interests of peace and harmony, and the immense induence which his position as the head of a world-wide spiritual organization enables him to exercise over the faithful in all the warring nations must be recognized when there is question of permanent peace proposals. The Italian government would make a great mistake by opposing the intervention of the Supreme Pontiff and his participation in any movement for peace. fact, the exclusion of the Pope from the congress by the action of Italy would be harmful to the state, as it would be an evident proof of the fact that Italy was ignoring the "modus which has existed, for nearly half a century, between the Quirinal and the Vatican.—St. Paul Bulletln.

THE BAD LITTLE HYPHEN

Until quite recently the hyphen had been regarded as a mild and inoffensive punctuation mark. It has now assumed a sinister or threatening character. With certain hysterical persons the hyphen has suddenly threatens the destruction of our liberties. It is associated with plots and conspiracies to overthrow the almost socialistic, is one which has hysterical persons have invented the term "hyphenated citizens" as an a certain extent put into practice in entire fabric of government. These opprobrious epithet to those Americans who use the hyphen as a con venient indication of either the land of their nativity or ancestry.

The terms Anglo-American, Irish-American, German-American, or other similar hyphenated words, mean nothing other than that the person to whom they are applied is either a native of a particular country, or, as is the case with all Americans, that his ancestors came from some partic ular European nation. The hysterical ones who so strenuously object to the hyphen contend that its use indicates some lingering affection for a foreign land that is linked with disloyalty to America. They say that Americans should forget completely countries if they would be considered

not denounce or forget his mother. When a man becomes an American an affection for his birthplace. He may disapprove of its form of govern-How the habitual borrower does dear ones in the land he has left

shed their blood on every battlefield for the Stars and Stripes were willing when in their native land to die for her freedom. The German blood that flowed so freely to preserve the they were exiled for attempting to establish free institutions on German soil. The hyphenated citizen has proven his loyalty to America in every crisis, and treason is no less an enormity in his mind than in the mind of a native citizen. His nativity did not prevent Benedict Arnold from becoming a traitor. The army of Washington contained many patriots who owned England as their native land. It is a singular and significant fact that all the denunciatory talk about hyphenated citizen ship should be directed principally against Americans of one racial It is natural that Americans of German blood should feel a pride in the glorious achievements of Germany, hemmed in on every side, yet victorious on land and sea. We can not blame them if they glory in being of the same blood. It is strange that there is no denunciation of those Americans who have for years past boasted that they were of the dubious Anglo-Saxon race. No doubt in the minds of these men it is a crime for the Irishman to wear the shamrock the 17th of March, and it is treason for the children of sunny

The law under which the foreigner has become a citizen of the United States does not demand that all social and family ties be broken by the change of political allegiance. He may have a father or mother, or both, or perhaps a sister or brother, living in the foreign land. Neither the spirit nor the letter of the law demands that he forget these ties of America. By defending this principle blood that bind him to those he has left behind. Some of the framers of our naturalization laws, themselves able and disquieting social conditions of foreign birth, have experienced to which Socialism and syndicalism the longing that exists to again see the country they abandoned. should not make the man who chose our country as his home feel ashamed He had nothing to say about what country he preferred to be born in, To cry out against the current price but he did choose our country for his future home. Only the renegade prices generally is like condemning

of the fall of the Bastile.

would say that all citizens of foreign birth are traitors.

The hysteria about hyphenated
The hysteria about hyphenated against the purveyors of milk for exacting from their customers profits citizens smacks too much of a recrudescence of Know Nothingism, our first hyphenated organization. It is an unwholesome indication of an opinion in the minds of many that they constitute a kind of aristocratic citizenry. There is danger that this stirring up of enmity among Americans of diverse racial origin will not stop until there is an attempt to couple religious with racial divi-The memory of such action still vivid and there is a small element in American life who even now impugn the loyalty of the hyphenated Catholic American. It is famous vindication of the right of the living wage. In these fearful Without questioning the sincerity and pure motive of the vast majority of those who are just now pleading for unalloyed Americanism we can not forget the words of Dr. Johnson, "Patriotism is the last resort of a scoundrel."—Father O'Reilly in Syra-people organized to save the nation cuse Catholic Sun.

JUST PRICE VERSUS MARKET PRICE

In sending the following article to when organized for peace. Even in The Citizen, Major (Rev.) J. J. the daily and weekly press the dar-In sending the following article to O'Gorman, C.E.F., now "somewhere in France," writes, "Enclosed is an extract of an article which I think carded principles of the Middle Ages. yould be suitable for your Fifth Column. The indicated. been taught for seven centuries by the middle ages. It was copied out for me from the Irish Theological Quarterly by an invalided soldier, Corp. Bowers of the 4th Middlesex. He wrote it with his left hand as his right was smashed by shrapnel. He is a good social worker. Father Kelleher, the author, is one of the leading Catholic authorities in Ireland on the ethical aspect of eco-

nomic questions. "To the thirteenth century scholastic it was not a matter of argument or proof, it was simply part of the habitual mental attitude to regard the rate of exchange in buying and selling as a social and ethical ques-As social it had to be regulated tion. by the community itself through its the lands from whence they or their laws or binding customs. As ethical ancestors came; in fact, should even it was required to be fixed in accordhave an aversion to their old home ance with some recognized ethical or

moral standard. "The modern concept of just price, The argument is absurd and ridiculous. When a man pledges his love and loyalty to his wife he does not denounce or former him denounce or former him. community as a moral entity has abrogated its function of controlling the exchange of goods, with a view citizen he does not change his human nature. It is natural for him to have interests of all its members. The theory of the absoluteness of property has been accepted in practice and it might the plant hate its soil. As well which its seed took root. There are ties of blood, there are friends is admitted to be the right of owners just price is whatever people are prepared to pay. It corresponds to How the habitual borrower does admire that virtue, patience, in the behind him. He would make a poor and is limited only by the laws of American citizen and his loyalty to non-moral economics. Thus to the

thousands of Irish-born citizens who highly incongruous to imagine erchants thinking simply of a jusmodern fortunes are made. ing the rate of supply and demand, the abundance or shortage of yields, Union came from the same hearts the prospect of the coming season, that so loved the Fatherland that etc., they have one clear object in view: to find out, as they would put it themselves, how best to make their business prosper; which means how to make the greatest profits, which again, in respect to prices, means how to determine those which shall be most advantageous to themselves. We may call these prices "commercial value" or "exchange value" if we will. It makes no The solitary pertinent difference. fact is that the merchants aim at finding out the most they can get for their goods, and fix the price at that. Of course the amount that people will be prepared to pay for any class of goods can be estimated beforehand with surprising accuracy. It depends on a variety of economic factors, all objective and definite in themselves, which merchants are able to calcu late. But that is no reason for hold ing that what people will be prepared to pay is an objective standard. In a precisely similar way the amount that a starving man would be pre pared to pay for a loaf of bread wo be determined by a very definite and calculable economic fact, viz., the amount he had in his pocket. But surely if as a result of the calcula tion of such a simple fact one were France to celebrate the anniversary to charge him ten pounds for the would have no hesitation in

subjective price.
"The first step in the return to sounder views must be the abandon-ment of the principle of market prices as they are to be seen working out in practice in Liverpool or any other business center in England or we are setting up a justification of usury, sweating, and all the lament. able and disquieting social conditions are only the natural, though ineffect ive and unreasonable answers. cannot find a case of sweating or r country as his home feel ashamed admit that he was born abroad. direct product of the principles a had nothing to say about what petty thefts and bowing before whole which at most will be reckoned by hundreds of pounds in the year and which at best will afford them middle class affluence, what are we to say of the purveyors, for instance, of spirits and beer, the distillers and brewers whose profit amount to many thousands of pounds annually, and have raised family trees? . . . By most vigorous and effective

them into the ranks of the aristocracy and provided them with coronets and By far the has come from Pope Leo XIII., in his the living wage. In these fearful days there is a regular flood of complaints against the scandal of profit mongering; it is felt so highly iniquitous that a few selfish individuals should be enabled to make huge forin time of war. The cry is ominous.

If the system of profit-mongering breaks down in time of war, it can scarcely be resumed in time of peace If it is iniquitous to exploit for profit people when organized for war, it is hard to understand how it can be lawful to exploit them for profit

"The state, if it would, could do

much to control the working of economic forces and to prevent them from sustaining the scandalous inequitable practices in which they have been working out up to the present. But the trouble is that the exercise of social authority has hitherto been directed mainly by the classes which possess economic advantages, and which, no doubt, from the most upright motives (so easily is self-interest confounded with principle) would most uncom promisingly resent any suggestion to interfere with the free exercise of economic forces. We may look on it, therefore, as one of the few indirect benefits accruing from the present disastrous conflict, that the public conscience appears to be awakened to the necessity of taking these matters seriously in hand. Already the (British) government has put for ward a plan for preventing rent raising during the war, and schemes are being suggested for restraining profits within reasonable limits The principle of a minimum wage has been already accepted in certain industries and surely it is not too much to hope that as the nation expects all its workers to fight and risk their lives for it when in danger, it will take steps to secure that they shall be saved from the grinding necessity that compels so many of them to work for a remuneration in sufficient to provide them with the means of enjoying a reasonable human existence. The time does certainly appear ripe for a large scheme of economic legislation. The material interests of society demand it no less than the claims of equity and humanity. We may reasonably hope that if the policy is begun in time of war it will not be reversed but rather developed and perfected after the restoration of peace.

He who made man must have all man has—and more.—Newman

Ottawa Citizen.

LAWLESSNESS AND THE COURTS

Open contempt of the rightful authority of the State is fast becoming a common phenomenon in cer tain uneasy sections of the country New York, in particular, has harbored for some years vociferous crews of brainless agitators who form a perpetual incitement to lawlessness. The plan of these propagandists is simple. In common criminals, they find that certain laws Divine power, legislates on all things are obnoxious. They propose to destroy these laws by repeatedly violating them. When brought to book, they will justify their course by flouting the authority of any court before which they may be arraigned. It is probably true that the majority of these agitators, parasitic males and unsexed women, are mere seekers after notoriety. Others, however, are anarchistic, both in however, are anarchistic, both in to close up shop.

For the Catholic the last word was the when Christ laid down the It is not pessimistic to say that

deeper disorder in the public and private life of a rapidly-growing group of our people. Authority is not a welcome word with the populace, nor even with the young. We fly to the defense of our "rights"; but we defense of our agreeing that he had been charged a religion, rejecting the supernatural, time. Popular sentiment regards the criminal as an innocent victim of circumstances. Popular education centers on the develop ment of individuality, and fails miserably in developing the far more important sense of obligation. And all alike, religion or what passes for religion, morbid sentiment and disorderly education, are but integral parts of the cult of a lawless god,

whose name is Self. Judge Cropsey of the Supreme Court of New York, has recently said that the faith of our people in the integrity of the judiciary is being undermined. The statement is un doubtedly correct. When belief in God, the source and centre of all authority, has been rejected, men easily lose their faith in those tribunals which administer justice in His name. Yet some degree of this loss of faith in the honesty of our courts, may be traced to the apparent unwillingness of certain inferior courts to deal sternly with cases involving open and persistent contempt of authority. This weakness doe not in itself invalidate the authority of a legal tribunal; but no judiciary high or low, can retain the respect of the community, as long as it toler ates contempt from the criminals brought within its jurisdiction.—

THE REAL MENACE

Several representative gatherings of Protestants, notably the general synods of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, have lately passed strong resolutions calling for some action on the part of the church and civil government to control the terrible ravages of divorce. The realization is coming to them that the very foundation of society is crumbling, that disregard for the sanctity of | building a church every year. marriage is the real American

Some of the ministers admit that it is wrong to marry any of the couples whom they unite in the holy bonds but excuse themselves on the plea that they might as well do it or the that they might as well do it or the distributions.

Previously acknowledged... \$7,492 25

L. K.(K. C.) Ingersoll..... 1 00

A. M. K., Rathwell....... 1 00 uld go somewhere else and be married. As a consequence they M. E. G., Kingston. ask for more state legislation on the marriage question. The Catholic The Diocese of Toronto... Church, conscious of her supreme Thos. O'Regan, Lakelands

The great numbers of

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concerning marriage as a sacrament without asking police protection.
The Church knows and all Catholics know that if Catholics go "some-where else" to get married the result is a life in adultery and eternal damnation if God does not give them the grace of repentance. A church that is afraid to enforce the laws of God

solemn edict: "What God hath joined together let no man put "What God hath Statistics prove these chronic violations of particular ordinances are but symptoms of a riages in the United States. Many riages in the United States. Many and various explanations have been given. The chief reason lies in fact that the world has ceased to recog populace, nor we fly to the been brought to the level of a civil suffer the rights of the community and the inalienable rights of God to and have their domestic trials. be flouted without concern. Popular When unfortunate circumstances bring them to the awful condition engages itself with the things of that demands a legal separation there is not a new consort waiting for capital punishment as murder, and them in the parlor of a minister or the office of a Justice of the Peace.

In no country in the world is marriage held in such contempt as in the United States. In no civilized country is there such a number of divorces or is divorce granted for such trivial reasons. We have set the pace for the world and still have a very safe lead. When the Reformers destroyed the sacramental character of Christian marriage they opened a floodgate of immorality. While we commend the immorality. While we commend the belated zeal of our separated breth-ren, there is a tragic humor in the cry for more stringent divorce laws by those whose church must date its origin from Henry VIII., or Martin Luther.—N. Y. Catholic Sun.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Dec. 11, 1915. Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD :

It may be a little surprise to you to learn that it takes \$100 a week to keep my mission going. I am glad when I see that amount contributed in the RECORD, but when it is less ! am sad to see my little reserve sum diminished and the catastrophe arriving when I must close my chapels, discharge my catechists and reduce my expenses to the few dollars coming in weekly. I beseech you to make one more supreme effort during 1916 to keep this mission on its feet. You will be surprised to learn what a great deal I am doing with \$100 a week-keeping mysels and curate, 30 catechists, 7 chapela, and free schools, 3 churches in different cities with caretakers, supporting two big catechumenates men, women and children during their preparation for baptism and

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary. J. M. FRASER.

30 00

THOMAS SIMPSON. The Benefits applying to the British Parliament in 1760 for a of Life charter for the Equitable Society, based his petition Insurance on the following grounds:

His Majesty's subjects whose subsistence principally depends on the salaries, stipends and other incomes payable to them during their natural lives or on the profits arising from their several trades, occupations, labor and industry, are very desirous of entering into a society for assuring the lives of each other in order to extend, after their decease, the benefit of their present incomes to their families and relations, who may otherwise be reduced to extreme poverty and distress by the prema-

ture death of their sev-

eral husbands, fathers

and friends."

No Better Statement

Than this of the true purpose of

Life Insurance has ever been issued The impelling motive for taking out

a policy is the same now as it was in Simpson's day, but the facilities are

Are you "extending the benefit of your present income" to your family? If not, you are to blame for neglecting to shield them from the chance of 'extreme poverty and distress."

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