



THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE TRUE WITNESS P. & CO., Limited.
255 Bay Street, Montreal, Canada. P. O. Box 1138.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—City of Montreal (delivered), \$1.50; other parts of Canada, \$1.00; United States, \$1.00; Newfoundland, \$1.00; Great Britain, Ireland and France, \$1.50; Belgium, Italy, Germany and Australia, \$2.00. Terms, payable in advance.
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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

"If the English-speaking Catholics in Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the 'True Witness' one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in the country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work."
—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

OUR LAST ISSUE.

In compliance with a recent decision to wind up the affairs of the True Witness Printing and Publishing Company, Ltd., it will be necessary to suspend publication of the "True Witness."

THE SCHOOL BELL CALL.

Next week the sound of bells calling the younger generation to classes in our Catholic schools in city, town and village throughout the province will be heard, and thousands of boys and girls will respond to its summons. No section of the population of this metropolitan city and old province is the event of more importance than to Irish Catholics. Education plays an important role to-day in every department of life. In industrial and commercial enterprises it is the boys who have received a thorough training in elementary and secondary schools who attain to positions of the greatest importance and financial value.

Catholic parents and others should bear this in mind when they are inclined, as too many of them are, to take their children or those entrusted to their care from school at an age when they have only entered upon the serious stage in their elementary studies.

No body of citizens in Canada should be more ready to make a real sacrifice in this connection for their children than Irish Catholics, many of whom have had bitter experience at every stage of their careers as a result of being deprived of the advantages, in their youth, of education. The future of our race in this Catholic province depends in a large measure upon the education of the boys and girls of the present, who are to take the places of the older generations, one of which is well down the incline that leads to the tomb, and the other standing on the hilltop of active life about to undertake the same journey.

There is need, pressing need for more instruction from pulpit and lecture platform on this subject of affording the boys and girls all the advantages of a sound training. It is not sufficient that it should be dwelt upon at the opening and closing of our schools each year; it should be the aim of the clergy and laity, upon whom the duty and responsibility of giving instruction rests, to make frequent references to it. We sincerely hope for the honor of the descendants of the grand old race in Montreal that the suicidal policy of taking children away from our parochial schools so often followed by parents, many of whom are financially equal to giving their sons and daughters the best possible education, and sending them into factories and shops at the most impressionable period of their lives, will cease.

We want to see Irish Canadian boys and girls trained for the battle of life in a manner that will ensure success, not to send them out into the world of industrial and commercial life at an age which is only calculated to lead to a life of wretchedness, if not to a life of worthy ambition in their young hearts.

LABOR DAY.—On Monday next organized labor will again display its strength in this metropolis and add another chapter to the history of its annual public demonstrations. The various organizations of labor in this city have progressed by leaps and bounds during recent years.

It requires administrative ability, patience and persistent effort to marshal forces, and form combinations such as we have beheld in labor's ranks in our midst. If the same ability and energy were directed towards public affairs, and a true spirit of unity and Christian charity animated its leaders and members, organized labor would wield a mighty influence for good in the betterment of the masses and in the up-building of this great commercial centre of our Dominion.

IRELAND'S LEADER.

The reception accorded to Mr. John Redmond, M.P., leader of the Irish Parliamentary party, and his colleagues who accompanied him, in New York on Sunday evening last, was a most enthusiastic one. \$15,000 of the \$50,000 which Mr. Redmond asked Irish Americans to subscribe towards defraying the expenses of the campaign for Home Rule during the next election, was subscribed during the progress of the reception and addresses. Mr. Redmond in an eloquent address spoke of the progress made in behalf of the cause during the past two years. They had met the revival of coercion; trial by jury had been suspended; it has been resumed. Never again, declared Mr. Redmond, will free speech or trial by jury be denied to us, or arbitrary imprisonment be inflicted. Referring to the Land Act of last year, he said:

"Two years ago when I stood on this platform, if I should have told you that within a year a bill doing away with landlordism and appropriating more than \$600,000,000 for the purchase of Irish lands would be passed in an English Parliament you would have said that I had taken leave of my senses. Already property to the value of \$58,000,000 has changed hands from landlords to tenants, and in ten or fifteen years practically all of Ireland will have changed as to ownership."

The national convention under the auspices of the United Irish League of America, which opened on Monday and was continued on Tuesday, was another occasion when Ireland's envoys were tendered an ovation by thousands of delegates who were present. Mayor McClellan extended a welcome in the name of the city. All the visitors made speeches. They told of the conditions in Ireland, and the keynote of nearly every speech was that the prospects for Home Rule in Ireland were never so bright.

THE WAR.—There is a change in the tone of the despatches from the seat of war. This week the Russians are credited with a few victories. It would appear that the long looked for change in the record of retreats and repulses to which the fearless little Japs have submitted the Russians is about at hand.

HOME TRAINING.—A writer, in a study of the value of true and pure character, remarks that mothers and fathers alone have the building of this in their children. This is not a Catholic view. Parents can do much, but the Church and its great auxiliary the Catholic school must bear its share and in our day that share is a large one.

LUXURIOUS LIVING.—Some people are making the most of their sojourn in this world. They have no desire to make it "a vale of tears."

One of the daily newspapers, under the sensational heading "Burning money," describes a new venture which is intended to provide luxurious homes for wealthy bachelors in that great worldly city, New York, where humanity is always on the move, day and night.

Here is the description of the new palace: There is now approaching completion in New York an inn with accommodation for two hundred people. The walls of the rooms are not papered, but hung with satin damask, costing \$17.50 per yard, and the sofas, chairs, and chairs in single rooms cost \$4000 to \$10,000. For the use of a sitting room, two bedrooms, and two baths in this house, \$12,500 a year will be charged, exclusive of meals. A suite of five rooms and two baths will cost \$100 to \$150 a day; \$700 a week, or \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year; also without meals. The cost of food is \$10 to \$20 per day for each person, and this does not include wines, which can be bought at \$6 to \$30 per quart. At this hotel none but adults will be accommodated, the restriction being due to the fact that a thoughtless child could in five minutes cause as many thousand dollars in damage to the rich hangings.

STUDENT OF HUMANITY.

Dr. William Farr, a young American of 30 years of age, has displayed keen appreciation of the frailties of the average American citizen. In the names of various colleges which he has been conducting, it is said, he issued LL.D. degrees at prices ranging from \$5 to \$10 each. A New York daily newspaper estimates that 20,000 of such diplomas have been sold.

CATHOLICS IN FRANCE.

—To be a practical Catholic at the present moment in France, says the Countess de Courson in an article on "Mission Work in Paris," is to cut one's self off deliberately from every chance of promotion in civil and military service, high or low.

A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

—On Wednesday morning a collision occurred on the G.T.R. near Richmond, P.Q., which caused the loss of nine lives and injury to twenty-three persons.

HOME RULE.

—The Catholic Times of Liverpool, Eng., makes the following observations in a recent issue:

"The proposal that the Parliamentary representatives of Ireland should cease to attend Westminster is not new. It was entertained by O'Connell. Mr. John Martin, who was called the father of the Home Rule movement, refused to vote in the British House of Commons, and put in an appearance there by way of protest. His wish was, we believe, that all the Irish members should remain in Ireland. The idea has never been wholly given up in Ireland, and now it is put forward in rather definite form. Its advocates point out that it was by pursuing this course Hungary gained from Austria a government of her own. A committee has, it is stated, been appointed in Dublin to arrange for a great convention there in September or October, when the scheme will be submitted to delegates from all parts of the country. A gentleman from London who has been visiting Dublin has informed a representative of the Daily Express that the new movement is rapidly gaining ground among a large section of moderate Irishmen, who hold that they are not properly represented by the Irish Parliamentary Party. The present Parliamentary party have rendered faithful service to Ireland. It would, of course, be impossible for them to please everybody, but it may be taken for granted that no new political tactics will be adopted without their approval."

TOO MANY SOCIETIES.—As we have often pointed out, there are too many societies in our Irish parishes. A generation ago, when Irishmen in this city were banded together in a few organizations, there was more public spirit amongst them and they exercised greater influence in public affairs. There is need for a change in this regard.

DANGEROUSLY ILL.

—Sister St. Aloysius of the Sacred Heart, of the congregation of Notre Dame, for many years head of the musical department of St. Patrick's Academy, Alexander street, and during recent years stationed at one of the houses of the Order in Waterbury, Conn., is dangerously ill at the Mother House. She came to this city from Waterbury at the beginning of the vacations to visit her mother, Mrs. T. McDonnell, 86 Mansfield street, who was then seriously ill. Shortly after her arrival she was suddenly stricken with illness, and at the time of going to press the condition of the noble young nun is hopeless so far as human aid is concerned.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Rev. Father Devine, S.J., has returned to Montreal after his long absence in Nome. He is in the enjoyment of the best of health and seems to have benefitted by his sojourn in that far-away land.

Rev. L. W. Leclair, director of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, his scores of friends in this city will be pleased to learn, has completely recovered from the accident which occurred to him several months ago while stepping out of a carriage. He was out for the first time since the accident on Saturday last, attending to some business of the Asylum.

Mr. Joseph McCarey, Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dr. P. C. Murphy, Tignish, Nfld., and Mr. Frank Perry, Summerside, P.E.I., were among the visitors at the editorial rooms of the "True Witness" this week. They were on their way to their homes after attending the convention of the C.M.B.A. of Canada, held in Toronto last week. They spoke most enthusiastically of the businesslike manner in which the proceedings of the convention were conducted, and of the great future in store for the Association.

PERSECUTION IN FRANCE.

In a sermon preached in Liverpool recently, the occasion being the opening of new schools, His Lordship Dr. Casartelli, Bishop of Salford, made reference to the condition of affairs in France. His Lordship said: "Our Lord had made known to his disciples that persecution was to be their lot in this world. Although He spoke of the extension of His Kingdom, although He spoke of the triumphs of His Kingdom, still He always put before his followers that persecution was to be a characteristic of their efforts, and that had come to pass. The Church was always suffering in some part of the world. It seemed to be the Providence of God that the Church should suffer. In the long run, the Church always seemed to benefit from persecution. Persecution purified the Church. Look at the history of the Catholic Church in Germany during the last century. All the might of the German Empire had been brought against it, but the German Catholics had got through the persecution and were now a most prosperous and strong branch of the Church. If they looked across the water they would see in France what he was afraid was going to be a terrible persecution. They would not pass it over with indifference. They must, like the good Samaritan in that day's text, at least give their sympathy and prayer to their persecuted brethren. They remembered how the persecution had begun against the religious orders. Congregation after congregation had been scattered, and thousands of good men and women driven out of the country. There were in Belgium alone 30,000 of these exiles while in every other country there were also large numbers of them. They could realize how great was the persecution."

IT WAS A GENERAL FEELING ON ALL SIDES THAT THE BEST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN WAS THE ABOLITION OF THE CONCORDAT. MOST CATHOLICS WERE OF OPINION THAT SUCH A SEVERANCE MUST IN THE LONG RUN RESULT IN GOOD FOR THE CHURCH IN FRANCE. YET THEY MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT IN ORDER TO ATTAIN THAT GOOD THE CHURCH IN FRANCE WAS CALLED ON TO GO THROUGH A PERIOD

of severe stress. The abolition of the Concordat meant the severance of Church and State, and the secular priests who were supported by the State would no longer be supported by it. Catholics of the country would have to find the money. They in this country were used to this state of affairs, but their friends in France were in a different position. Hitherto the cost of the fabric of the churches had been borne by the State, but this duty would now fall on the Catholics of the country. They were not even sure that the State would not take possession of their churches and seminaries, and that the Catholics of France would not be called upon to build new ones. It would take a considerable time before the people would get accustomed to the new conditions.

In the past it was the French Catholics who had been the backbone of the foreign missionary work. If they were to be called on now to suffer persecution and find so much money to support the Church in their own country, how were they to continue their generous liberality to foreign missionary work? It meant a terrible blow to the Church if that work had to be discontinued. He had put before them some thoughts of his about the condition of their brethren in France. No man could have anything but feelings of sympathy with those unfortunate people.

It was the exiled French priests during the Revolution who had helped to keep alive the Faith in England. They had found a refuge and welcome here, and they had returned it by winning souls to God. They owed it to the French Catholics that their kingdom was being extended and the heathen brought into the Faith. There was good work done in France by associations who continually prayed for the conversion of England. They were indebted for much to the Church in France, and should therefore give to the Catholics there in their time of trial their kindly sympathy and prayers. They could take a great interest in the affairs of the Church in France, and could get to know the truth. The press of this country did not give a true picture of the state of France. It was, no doubt, inspired by the anti-Catholic papers of France. They could pray, and more things were done by prayer than were dreamt of. Let them pray that God might give their friends strength to bear the heavy burden laid upon them. In conclusion His Lordship appealed to them to contribute liberally that day towards their new schools.

VARIOUS NOTES.

BIG PAY.—An exchange says that some of the fortune-tellers in London earn \$100 a day.

THE BOXERS AGAIN.

—Reports from China are to the effect that the Boxers are threatening missionaries and their followers in the province of Perchill.

CONSCIENCE STRICKEN.

—New York's State Treasurer received \$300, the other day with a note stating that it was for the "Conscience Fund."

IRISH CAUSE.

—According to an American daily newspaper, the report of the Treasurer of the United Irish League of America, presented to the convention held in New York this week, shows that Massachusetts holds the place of honor, having contributed \$15,500. Pennsylvania ranks second with \$7800 to its credit, and New York occupies third place, being a contributor for \$7666. These subscriptions cover a period of two years.

A CENTENARIAN.

—Mrs. Hunt, of Brooklyn, celebrated the 104th anniversary of her birth the other day. Even at her great age there is a tone of the worldly view in her remarks to a press representative when asked to explain the secret of her long life. She remarked: "When I was a girl our people knew nothing of late theatre parties and later sappers. We lived without gluttony or frivolity and grew strong in body and tranquil in mind. Most

people are too prone to let the petty things of life worry them."

A BIG BATTLE.—A despatch from St. Petersburg thus describes the forces now striving for supremacy at Liao-Yang: The battle began early Tuesday morning, raged throughout the day with increasing intensity.

The Japanese forces engaged in this battle can only be estimated here, but they are believed to number about two hundred thousand men. General Kuropatkin is known to have six army corps, besides one hundred and forty-seven squadrons of cavalry in which great confidence is reposed, bringing up the Russian total to about the same number as that of the Japanese.

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

—Describing one of the battles at Port Arthur, a correspondent says:

As the Japanese were climbing on the shoulders of their comrades to scale the fort walls they were stabbed by the bayonets of the Russian soldiers, who were leaning over. Finally, men dropping from exhaustion, were trampled on by the fighting troops.

On one occasion at Fort No. 1, both Russians and Japanese were wedged into a struggling mass between the walls, unable to use their arms. They detached their bayonets, however, and landed recklessly, slashing the faces, heads and arms. Many were nearly decapitated.

THE C. M. B. A. CONVENTION.

The convention of the C.M.B.A. of Canada, held in Toronto last week, was one of, if not the most important in the history of the great Catholic association. Local delegates are much pleased with the result. The manner in which the question of increasing the rates was approached was an evidence that the delegates were averse to precipitate action in a matter of so much importance. While a section of the young men manifested a preparedness to submit to an increase of the rates, the prevailing opinion was to defer final action until the next convention, thus giving the executive ample time to consider the voluminous report of the actuary and make a thorough study of the question.

The financial report showed a total of 19,056 members and the total receipts of three years for the beneficiary fund was \$810,078, the amount paid out being \$718,390. Reserve fund amounts to \$167,036. Receipts for the general fund were \$74,183 and expenditures \$73,957. Thirty-seven new branches have been organized during the past three years.

A recommendation of the Committee on Laws to advance the age limit to 55 years was rejected.

The officers elected were:

Grand President—The Hon. M. F. Hackett, Stanstead, Que., re-elected.
First Vice-President—Hon. A. D. Richard, Dorchester, N.B.,
Second Vice-President—Mr. Bernard O'Connell, Dublin, Ont.

Secretary—Mr. J. J. Behan, Kingston.

Treasurer—Mr. W. J. McKee, Windsor.

Marshal—Mr. E. O. Callaghan, Cornwall.

Guard—Mr. Jacob J. Weinart, Neustadt, Ont.

Trustees—Messrs. J. A. Chisholm, L.L.B., Halifax; the Rev. A. G. Burke, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; George B. McNerny, St. John, N.B.; George L. Staunton, Hamilton, and C. D. Herbert, Three Rivers.

The laws committee elected were: John A. Murphy, Cayuga; F. J. Curran, Montreal, and Judge Landry, New Brunswick.

Grand Chancellors—The Hon. Senator Coffey, London, Ont.; T. J. Finn, Montreal; D. J. O'Connor, Stratford, Ont.; John O'Meara, B.C. L., Ottawa; O. K. Fraser, B.C.L., Brockville.

Messrs. W. J. Kernahan and Geo. Edwards were elected auditors.

The President and the members of the executive committee at a subsequent meeting appointed Dr. Ryan of Kingston, grand medical adviser, and the Hon. Frank Latchford solicitor.

The next convention will be held in Montreal in 1907.