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IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLAND

Cardinal O'Connell Gives Interesting Interview on His Return

Comment on Public Men—Watch Ramsay MacDonald—Baldwin's Ambition Not Political—A Word About Pay and Others.

The Boston Herald prints an interview by James Walsh with Cardinal O'Connell on his recent visit to England. The following is an interesting extract:

"The first thing that impressed me," said the cardinal, "was the roads, the most perfect roads that I have ever seen in the world. From one end of England to the other they are so even that you are never conscious of the slightest jar. And they are kept in the absolute perfect condition, not only the great highways which one might expect to be kept in perfect condition, but even the second and third class roads through the country."

"The roads are very well posted. All the cars, cabs and directions are very marked out. What was new to me, too, was the size of the motor vehicles. I could not remark how much smaller the motor vehicles are in England than they are here, but they are very comfortable and seem very practicable. Then there is a great use being made of the motorcycle with side car. A number of people who use them are very comfortable and seem very practicable. Then there is a great use being made of the motorcycle with side car. A number of people who use them are very comfortable and seem very practicable."

"Well, no," answered the cardinal, "I am not in a position to see first hand the particular phase of English life, but, however, it was made very clear to me from people on the ground, who knew very well what they were talking about, that underneath the apparent calm surface there is a tremendous wave of discontent."

Tragedy of Unemployment.

"First of all, of course, we all know that the question of unemployment is a very tragic one. As we went along the road, we were constantly meeting, the singly or in groups, men whose condition was really pathetic. They are evidently not willingly tramps, it yet there they were going from village to village, trying to live. I honestly think that the English Government has done remarkably well, all in all, to provide for this situation. The numbers are enormous. It is hard to see, but how they could be increased, there is no demand for manufactures, a account of European conditions. It is nobody's fault especially, it is a fact the circumstances of the time."

DELAY COST HIM \$34,000.



George Keates, cashier of a Toronto department store, who drew the winning ticket on a world-wide sweepstake for the English Derby won by "Papyrus." The expected winnings, however, dwindled from \$50,000 to \$700, owing to action of the British Government in withholding delivery of letters containing subscriptions. The prize was one offered by an Austrian sporting club. The delay in delivery of the prize money coincided with a drastic shrinkage in Austrian exchange.

a debate with a good deal of interest, because it brought into the arena several of the more noted and conspicuous figures of the Lords. Lord Curzon was all propriety. With a voice that was scarcely above a whisper, he made his remarks in language which was almost overbearing. Just as his personal appearance was on the bench of the opposition was Lord Grey of Faldoon, whose appearance impressed me very much. There was no affectation of elegance in his speech. It was just excellent, clear, precise English. In the coolest way imaginable he taunted the government with evidently endeavoring to stimulate the growth of bolshevism in the country by their high-handed methods. This was all said with such perfect calmness of manner as to, of course, only drive the dart home deeper.

"At once Lord Salisbury, the brother of Lord Robert, was on his feet. But evidently it seems to be a mark of the present day Cæsar to lose their tempers. Lord Salisbury was so irritated by the cool, dignified manner of Lord Grey that he could only stammer out a reply, which was no reply at all and then really finish his remarks in a stutter of rage.

Uncomfortable Seating.

"While the Parliament building and the Hall of the Lords and the Hall of the Commons is a fine place of architecture, I can't conceive of a more uncomfortable way of seating the members. There are a series of long benches which at times are most uncomfortable crowded, leaving no space for hands or arms, much less for documents or papers which any speaker may wish to use. As for the time the House of Lords, straight into the eyes of the members on the east side, so that they could scarcely see what was going on on the other side of the House unless they put on their glasses and screened their eyes with their hands. No doubt it is traditional, and the English like traditions, but I can only repeat, I can't conceive of a more convenient method of housing a Parliament than these benches."

Then the cardinal spoke of "Pay Pay" O'Connell. "I had the pleasure of meeting 'Pay Pay' O'Connell," said he. "He is looking, of course, very much older than when I saw him last, but he still has the humorous twinkle in his eye and his genial and friendly manner. He is now the father of the House of Commons. That means he is the first member in the order of seniority of election. He has served for 40 years consecutively in the House."

Baldwin's Ambition.

"They gave him a great dinner while I was there, and several of the notable members of Parliament were present to do him honor. Among them was Stanley Baldwin, who at that time was only chancellor of the exchequer. He was life in Parliament incompatible with decency? Lord Curzon added: 'As for books, why Mr. Baldwin, you will find plenty of them very soon, because you will have to read my white, yellow and blue books on the European situation. As for the pig—' The rest was lost in an uproar. This would seem to indicate that even such a very superior person as the Marquis Curzon of Kedleston has at the bottom of his soul a sense of humor."

"As for Dean Inge. Of course I didn't see him," said the cardinal, "and I certainly have no desire to meet him." Here a twinkle came into the cardinal's eye as he continued: "There is enough gloom in life without meeting gloomy deans. The fact is that though what Dean Inge writes is pretty generally read in America, from what can be heard from authoritative sources neither what he writes nor what he says makes much of an impression in England itself. The fact is that he is looked upon by the English people as an eccentric. He has a way of saying bitter things which are more caustic than truthful."

"Didn't your eminence long to go to Ireland on your way over, or when you were coming back?" asked the reporter. The cardinal closed his eyes, and after a moment opened them again with a very wistful expression, and answered very softly:

"I never desired anything so much in my life, and it was a real sacrifice for me not to yield to my overwhelming wish. I would have given anything to be able to visit the shrines and the holy places of the 'Isle of Saints,' and to tread again the scenes where my ancestors lived and fought and died. But it was not the time. Please God, I still hope to make that pilgrimage, to me a holy pilgrimage."



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mean by his desire for a 'decent life' may wish to understand the speech of Mr. Baldwin was characteristic. He congratulated Mr. O'Connell on his long service in the House, stating that it certainly was a matter of very great credit to be returned year after year for forty years, but for himself he had no such ambition. He said: 'For my part, I long for the time when I can lay this all down and go back to the country and lead a decent life with the people that I love, in the companionship of good books and the recreation of raising good, big pigs.' "This humorous and at the same time characteristic speech of Mr. Baldwin created a great sensation in London because there was a feeling already in the air that he would be the next premier, which he must have known himself. Nevertheless, in plain words he indicated that he had no ambition for a great place in the government and longed for the peace and privacy of his home in Somersetshire."

Lord Curzon on another occasion shortly after called Stanley Baldwin humorously to account for the speech, at a meeting of the Carlton Club. There he asked Stanley Baldwin what he

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Ireland on your way over, or when you were coming back?" asked the reporter. The cardinal closed his eyes, and after a moment opened them again with a very wistful expression, and answered very softly:

"I never desired anything so much in my life, and it was a real sacrifice for me not to yield to my overwhelming wish. I would have given anything to be able to visit the shrines and the holy places of the 'Isle of Saints,' and to tread again the scenes where my ancestors lived and fought and died. But it was not the time. Please God, I still hope to make that pilgrimage, to me a holy pilgrimage."

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