

UNBELIEVING PREACHERS.

Ave Maria. The Rev. Silliman Blagden, a zealous Protestant clergyman who still believes in the Bible, said recently: "With the exception of the Catholic clergy, whom I have invariably found to be sound and faithful in their belief in and adherence to the Word of God, and a few of our own Protestant clergy, the world is being overrun with unbelieving, spiritually ignorant, and heretical teachers and preachers of all kinds of creeds and denominations, who are sowing the devil's tares broadcast; so that in the time of harvest we shall see an answer to Christ's own question, namely, 'When the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?'"

The Question of a Nuncio for Canada.

The report that the Federal Government had suggested to the Holy See the appointment of a permanent Nuncio Apostolic for Canada was recently denied from Ottawa, but a Vatican correspondent, who is usually well informed, despite the contradiction, states that overtures to that effect were made by the Canadian Premier, whose action in the matter met with the approval and support of some men of distinction in England. Mr. Laurier was, it appears, led to take this step by the advantages arising from the mission of Mgr. Merry del Val. But Protestant prejudices were aroused, especially in Ontario and Manitoba, and as Mr. Laurier is very anxious to conciliate the non-Catholic electors, he forthwith renounced his project which the Holy Father, according to the correspondent referred to, does not desire to see carried out until there is, at least, a definite prospect of the satisfactory solution of the school problem. If Mr. Laurier decides to meet the Catholic claims he will probably renew the proposal for a Nuncio, and if he refuses to hearken to the voice of the Holy Father he will not in any way approach the Vatican.—CATHOLIC TIMES.

The Reduction of the Finest.

We have referred already to the methods by which the Anthropological Bureau, recently established by the Police Department, hopes to prevent the members of our justly respected and highly appreciated police force from accumulating too much fat. The subject is of immense and continuing interest to all philosophical citizens.

Without undervaluing the athletic exercise by which the police force is to be reduced, it is permissible to doubt if any diminution of the policemen will be approved by the community. In the heroic age the New York policeman was ample, even vast. GOG and MAGOG, fed on the Lord Mayor's richest calipash and calipee, melted into blue, and waivering their own clubs, would not have been more comfortable and imposing figures. You felt in those days that only a big and rich city could afford to keep policemen so voluminous and high-colored. Even the pilots of the Broadway stages, a fearless, original, and expressive

race of men, looked almost with humility upon these magnificent masters of traffic and obeyed their uplifted hands without imprecation.

It was beautiful to watch the conflicts for the right of way between these enlarged policemen and the truck drivers. The truck driver, in the times before reform, was a person who habitually defended a doubtless amiable personality behind a palisade of language imported from Flanders. He seemed to be vexed as if by the thought that he was born too late to be a pirate of the Spanish Main, and had to content himself with breasting the waves of West street. It was his heart's delight to mock the world and cut down all folks on foot. Was he a man to be restrained by a little, thin policeman? A policeman might have had the heart of HECTOR and the dynamic arm of FITZSIMMONS, and yet have failed to touch the imagination of the warrior truck drivers. To these the dignity of mass appealed. They feared the man whom they couldn't run over; and one of those old-fashioned bulging, monumental patrolmen was no more capable of being run over than St. Peter's is. The truck driver might run over somebody else and escape for a moment, but he knew that punishment awaited him at the end of a very short lane. That policeman he might elude, but before long he was sure to come upon two policemen talking together. Passage was impossible. He had to surrender. The fat men were slow but sure.

As a matter of fact no violator of the law who had any sense of etiquette ever tried to run away from a fat policeman. As a rule criminals are thin. They worry too much. They fear a fat policeman. They see in him their deadly opposite.

It is scarcely necessary to speak again of the sense of genial security diffused by fat policemen. It is an ancient jest that policemen are hard to find. The fat policeman was impossible to lose. He was a landmark, a beacon. In a town swarming with strangers he was a convenience, if not a necessity. He basked and waddled, an ornament and a joy.

Some of the civil service machine policemen of to-day flit about not much wider or more palpable than ghosts. A good guesser would put the combined age of two of them at 24 and the combined weight of two of them at 125 pounds. Probably they have all the virtues, but they seem better fitted to be "tigers" behind a pony cart than to be the law on legs. They don't look like deterrents of crime. And yet they are very severe to boy flower peddlers, and their frown at the sight of a push cart is tremendous. They mean well, but they have not the confidence of the public, and little, wanton boys of the street put thumb to nose at their approach.

Still, the fat policemen are doomed to lean years. Space in this town is so valuable that policemen cannot be allowed to occupy more than a fair share of it.

Boarding House Geometry. Definitions and Axioms.

- 1. All Boarding Houses are the same Boarding Houses.
2. Boarders in the same Boarding House and on the same flat are equal to one another.
3. A single room is that which has no parts and no magnitude.
4. The landlady of a Boarding House is a parallelogram.....that is an oblong and angular figure, which cannot be described but is equal to anything.
5. A wrangle is the disinclination of boarders to each other that meet together, but are not in the same flat.
6. All the rooms being taken, a single room is said to be a double room.

Postulates and Propositions.

- 1. A pie may be produced any number of times.

- 2. The landlady can be reduced to her lowest term by a series of propositions.
3. A bee line can be made from any Boarding House to any other Boarding House.
4. The clothes of a Boarding House bed though produce ever so far both ways will not meet.
5. Any two meals of a Boarding House are together less than two square meals.
6. If from the opposite ends of a Boarding House a line be drawn passing through all the rooms in turn, the stove pipe which warms the boarders will be within that line.
7. On the same bill and on the same side of it there should not be two charges for the same thing.
8. If there be two boarders on the same flat and the amount of side of one be equal to the amount of side of the other each to each, and the wrangle between one boarder and the landlady be equal to the wrangle between the landlady and the other, then shall the weekly bills of the two boarders be equal also each to each; for if not, Let one be the greater: then the other bill is less than it might have been.....which is absurd.

Alma Redemptoris Mater.

By Edmund of the Heart of Mary, C. P., in the Ave Maria. We hail thee "Fosterling Mother." For thine, O blessed among women, to become The line of thy's own Lord, while lay His home Within thy maiden womb's involute shrine: And when, those sweet months o'er, thou didst resign Thy Treasure to the world of heathen Rome, The Choirs whose carolling fill'd the starry dome Saw feeding at thy breast the Babe Divine But art thou not our "Alma Mater" too? "Our life," as holy Church hath bid us say? "By Him, still draw we not that life from thee? Ah, nourish it within us—keep us true To him who is alone "the life, the Way!"

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