The Catholic Record

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CLIMBERS

We?are all climbers in the social sense. It seems so desirable to rise in the conventional scale, improving our position and so attaining the consideration of our equals and the respect of our inferiors. Yet the whole trend of things, as viewed by any thoughtful man or woman today, makes it clear that a new scale of values is slowly but surely coming into vogue. Certain virtues are now seen to constitute a title to esteem in whatever condition or fortune they may be found. Civilization is now found to rest most firmly on personal basis: thought and conduct directly affect the happiness of high and low. If by service duly rendered to our fellows we are tacitly or formally to go up higher, we are in the order of progress. Promotion entails heavier responsibilities and pledges us to a more devoted and careful discharge of duty. How commonplace these counsels sound, and still how they verify themselves from age to age! Neglect of such moral truisms is punished under our eyes every day; deflance of them swells the volume of criminality and misery which afflicts society everywhere. Is it not writ large in human history that men and nations can only thrive in proportion as they aspire after the solid satisfactions of associated prosperity? To filch another's share of life's banquet is to plant a thorn in one's own breast. To prey upon the community by legal or illegal shifts is the worst possible way to provide for the future.

THE WRONG ROAD

It is piteous to see how many of the climbers miss their way-how the worry and fatigue of the daily struggle increase with added means and the power of money to minister to comfort diminishes, so that it is literally correct to say that they were far richer in resource when they were poorer, when the expenditure balanced the income, and modest indulgences gave more and purer pleasure than the redundant luxuries they have become accustomed to can ever give. We are not thinking of the toadies and snobs who merit the contempt which sooner or later overtakes them. We have in view the multitude of successful folk who emulate the fashions of the class that lives on a some what higher level-who pay higher rent and taxes than they can afford, send their children to expensive schools, and dress them in costly should fail to be considered highly respectable. The climb from class to class with its varied incidents -at homes and teas, week-ends and motor excursions, theatre and bridge parties, and an establishment which corresponds with an ever-increasing demand for the instruments of pleasure-makes up the elements of many a sordid tragedy that excites the momentary interest of a too-forgetful world.

THE PROPHETS

Intelligent men are usually chary about predicting what is going to happen farther ahead than to-day or to-morrow. Now that the most unusual condition of history has developed, you can hardly turn round without brushing against a prophet. The reason, no doubt, is that this unusual condition gives a certain license to the imagination. Commonly it is extra-hazardous to predict that anything is going to happen next year that will be very different from what happened last year-so extra hazardous that it lays one open to a suspicion of lack of mental

Now that about half of civilized society is trying to destroy itself, one may feel free to imagine the most fundamental and momentous changes. The milder war prophets foresee the combatants reduced to a thirdrate and impoverished Power, whose weight in the world will about equal that of Turkey. Darker previsions see a Europe utterly bankrupt, with wholesale repudiation of financial obligations, public and private, and a general welter of economic ruin out of which the belligerents can hardly dig themselves in two generations.

Still gloomier prophecy proclaims a collapse of civilization and a return to barbarism.

Prophets have always inclined powerfully to the most passimistic views-that seems to be a result of the deep emotional agitation which inspires one to prophecy: but probably the war will have decidedly less profound and extensive effects on human society than most of the prophets imagine. Probably after the treaties are signed taxes will be staggering, bankruptcies plentiful : there will be great gaps in European population and many alterations on Europe's map. But probably, on the whole, the world will take up the same work in the same way, with nothing different except a heavier burden all round. Thus the war will stand as a monstrous futility. And that is probably the gloomiest prophecy of all.

THE LITTLE THINGS

Enjoy the littles of every day. The great favors of fortune come to but few, and those who have them tell us that the quiet homely joys, which are within the reach of all, are infinitely better, and there is a good deal of rest to be found in being too busy to think of one's self. It is not so much our doing that wears out the heart and frets the brain as the constant thought of the doer.

THE POPE'S APPEAL FOR PEACE

Paris, August 1.-When we were called to succeed to the apostolic hrone of Pope Pius X, whose up right and exemplary life was brought to an end by the fratricidal struggle which broke out in Europe, we, too. felt, after gazing fearfully upon the bloody battlefield, the despair of a father who witnesses his home torn asunder and ravaged by a furious tempest. We thought with inexpressible sorrow of our young sons out down by death; we felt in our heart, enlarged by Christian charity the great unspeakable sadness of mothers and of wives made widows before their time, and the tears of children deprived too soon of parental guidance. Participating in our soul in the fear and anguish of ining the imperial duties imposed upon us by the mission of peace and love with which we have been confided during these sad days, we adopted a firm resolve to concentrate our whole activity and all our power to the reconciliation of the peoples at war We made a solemn promise to our Divine Father, who wished with the price of His blood to make all men brothers. Words of peace and love were the first that we addressed to the nations and their chiefs as the supreme guardian of their souls. Our affec father and friend were not heard. This increased our sadness, but did not shake our resolution. We con-tinue with confidence to appeal to the All nowerful, who holds in His jects as well as Kings, imploring Him to end the great scourge. In our humble but ardent prayer we wish to include all the faithful and, to make it more effective, we have taken care that it be accompanied by

end. We raise again our voice to utter a fatherly cry for peace. May this cry, dominating the frightful noise of arms, reach the warring peoples and their chiefs and induce kindly and more serene intentions. In the name of the Lord God, in the name of the Father and Lord in neaven, in the name of the blessed Blood of Jesus, the price of the redemption of humanity, we implore the belligerent nations, before Divine Providence, henceforth to end the horrible carnage, which for a year has been dishonoring Europe. This is the blood of brothers that is being shed on land and sea. The most bear regions of Europe, this garden of the world, are sown with corpses and ruins. There, where recently fields and factories thrived, cannon now roar in a frightfal manner, in a frenzy of demolition, sparing neith cities nor villages, and spreading the ravages of death. You who b God and men are charged with the grave responsibility of peace of war, listen to our prayer, listen to the fatherly voice of the vicar of the eternal and supreme Judge to whom you should give account of your public works as well as private actions. The abundant riches which creating God has given to your lands permit you to continue the contest. But at what a price! Such the ds of the young answer of thousan whose lives are lost each day on the battle-fields, and of the ruins of so many cities and villages, of so many monuments, due to the piety and genius of our forefathers. The bitter

homes and at the foot of altars, do they not also repeat that the price of the continuation of the contest is great, too great? And it can not be said that the immense conflict can not be ended without violence of arms. May this craze for destruction be abandoned; nations do not perish. Humiliated and oppressed, they tremblingly carry the yoke imposed on them and prepare their revenge, transmitting from generation to generation a sorrowful heritage of hate and vengeance. Why not now weigh with screne conscience the rights and just aspirations of the peoples? Why not start with good will, a direct or indirect exchange of views with the object of considering as far as possible these rights and aspirations, and thus put

to an and the terrible combat, as has

ilar circumstances?

een the case previously under sim-

Blessed be he who first extends the olive branch and tenders his hand to the enemy in offering reasonable condition of peace. The equilibrium of world progress and the security and tranquillity of nations repose on mutual well being and respect of the right and dignities of others more than on the number of armies and a formidable zene of fortresses. It is the cry of peace which issues from our soul this sadday and which invites the true friends of peace in the world to extend their hands to hasten the end of a war which for a year has transformed Europe into an enor-mous battlefield. May Jesus in His pity, by the intermediation of the Mother of sorrows, end the terrible tempest and cause to arise a radiant dawn and the quietude of peace formed in His own divine image. May hymns of thanks to the Most author of all good things soon resound! Let us hope for the re-conciliation of the States; may the people once again become brothers arts, learning, and industry; may once again the empire of justice be established; may the people decide henceforth to confine the solution of their differences no longer to the sword, but to courts of justice and equity, where the questions may be studied with necessary calm and thought. This will be the most beau-tiful and glorious victory. In confidence that the tree of peace will soon allow the world to enjoy again its fruits which are so much to be desired, we bestow our apostolic benedistion upon all those who are part of the mystic flock which is confided

THE EASTLAND DISASTER

who do not yet belong to the Roman

Church. We pray the Heavenly Father to unite Himself to us by

PRIESTS RUSH TO THE SCENE TO GIVE RELIGIOUS SOLACE TO THE VICTIMS

Chicago New World There has never been a scene of sorrow, danger and death, where lives were threatened and lost, that was not immediately visited by priest of the Catholic Church. Ready at any moment to hasten to bedside or death trap, short is the time they For well they know that a momen without the last rites of the Catholic

Saturday morning, July 24, a catas yet fallen upon cur city, took an untold number of lives. The steamthe terrible conflict, our heart sends forth the wish that the war will soon end. We raise again our reise. the Clark street bridge. A glance told that the hundreds that escape or were rescued were but a small per cent. of the vast number that : few moments before had filled the decks and cabins. In the river be fore the eyes of terror-stricken witnesses and hidden beneath the steel side of the steamer there was struggle going on that can never b described. There were hundreds and hundreds there for whom that

struggle would end only in death. Scarcely had the fated boat rested n its side in the waters, when word of the terrible happening reached the rectory of the Holy Name Cathe dral. Imagination could tell the toll of dead the ship would take. There was no question how great was the need of a priest of God to do what could be done to prepare the thou-Upon the instant the word reache the rectory, two of the resident priests. Father Phelan and Father Wolf, rushed with all possible speed to the scene of death a few blocks away. They knew that in the gling mass that filled the hold of the ship and the waters of the river there were hundreds of our Faith, These hundreds, though they may still have hoped, knew that death was close and that unless aid was immediate the waters about them would swallow them. Surely the

tears which flow in the sanctity of died that morning are a secret from us forever. But who would question that when they saw that the dread hour had come they raised their thoughts to God and their hearts were filled with sorrow for their sins.

GENERAL ABSOLUTION GIVEN

When the priests reached the scene of that death struggle, they raised their hands in the sign of the Cross and their voices in the solemn and efficacious words of General Absolution that would forgive the sins of all who had an attitude of

Still the work to be done was too great for but two men. Hardly had Fathers Phalen and Wolf left the cathedral rectory when they were followed? by Very Rev. M. J. Fitz-Simmons, V. G., Administrator of the Archdiocese, Dr. Hoban, Chancellor, Father O'Brien, Father Abern and Father O'Shea. And as the news of the disaster was carried by wire and tongue to various quarters about the oop, more priests hurried to the illfated spot. All of the Paulist Fathers at the rectory at that hour hurried over to the river, as did the priests of various other parishes and Catho lic institutions. Soon the work of rescuing the living and recovering the bodies of the dead was well under way. Still not a move was made but that a priest of God stood silently by waiting as each victim was drawn up from the death hole. If a sign of life remained Extreme Unction was given. Otherwise Conditional Absolution was spoken over the apparent ly dead body in hopes that there might still be a spark of life. For vived even after all signs of life were lacking.

FEW LIVING FOUND In the first hour of the rescu work many were drawn from the ships hold who were still alive though often at death's door. For these the priests did all within their power to prepare them to meet their Master. Work of identifying the Catholics was simplified by the scapulars, medals, crucifixes and Agnus Dei, worn by so many who had been trapped.

nad been trapped.

Nor did the priests work only on
the death ship. Everywhere the injured, dying and dead had been
carried they hurried to administer the consolations of religion. As the hours of the day passed, fewer and fewer living were taken from the wrecked boat. Yet the priests never tired nor left. God's work was to be done and at any moment, though faint was the hope, a living body might be found.

The work of our priests did not consist solely in admistering to the dying. There was, too, the heart-breaking task of consoling the afflicted, the grief stricken, who had been saved but who had witnessed relative or friend sink into the murky waters. Then there were the distracted thousands who when the word of the accident spread, hurried down town to learn the fate of some near one who had been on board. They needed help and advice and encouragement and support. All this the priests gave with but one ournose in mind to ease if only in he smallest measure their grief and

But while these priests labored on the boat, the decks and hospitals, hundreds of others hurried to homes where death had struck, to stand by and support aged parents who had just learned of the death of loved

The work of the Catholic priests during the awful hours of Saturday was little noted. They worked so silently and unobstrusively. But it is work that is written in gold in the books of Judgment and in letter that will never be effaced in the hearts of thousands of bereaved who found in them counsel and consola-

THEY OWE HER SO MUCH

The Lord Mayor of Manchester, England-Lord Mayor McCabe—is an Irishman and a Catholic, a fact which is to the credit of that great Protestant city-Protestant in that the vast majority of its population are non-Catholic—non-Catholic, yet they make a Catholic Mayor—which is a step in advance in the direction of religious toleration, as things go in England, where progress in that matter has been slow. Lord Mayor McCabe is a Catholic and one wh does not hesitate to proclaim for his Faith openly when occasion offers and demands. Speaking recently at Faith openly when a meeting for the object of erecting a ew church he referred to the debt of England to the Catholic Church,

incurred in past times.
"The people of this country," he said, "held the Catholic Faith for more than a thousand years. Most of our great cathedrals and great parish churches, our educational foundations of Oxford and Cambridge were established when this country

English) were firmly established when England owed allegiance to the Holy See; and therefore it is wrong for Englishmen and non Catholics to misrepresent the Catholic Church

when they owe her so much for what she previously did for this country." And what she "previously did" all done in the "dark ages" when Europe was "dominated" by "Pope and Popery," which gave to England her great Cathedrals — great parish churches, great universities and great Charters of freedom.—N. Y. Free-man's Journal.

A NEW PLEA FOR

PEACE The voice from the Vatican has again been heard around the earth. The anniversary of the outbreak of the world war has called forth a new letter from the Holy Father, weighty with meaning. It is an earnest, practical effort to bring to a termination the fratricidal struggle which is strewing the fairest garden lands of Europe with corpses and ruins. He alone of all the mighty powers upon earth has hitherto been assuage or mitigate ever so little the dreadful horrors of this war. His words alone have been listened to with consideration, even when they did not entirely effect their purpose His present message is important beyond all others. It calls for an ex change of views, direct or indirect among the rulers of the embattled nations, "in an endeavor, if possible to arrange aspirations so that all may be contented." He advises them of the futility of an attempt at the time of death by drowning is them of the futility of an attempt at uncertain, as people have been remutual annihilation: nations can not be exterminated, and the desire of revenge will live on from generation to generation. All friends of peace are therefore asked to unite with him in terminating this war and to establish a new order, an empire of right, "resolving henceforth to solve difficulties not by sword, but by equity and justice." Recalling the slaughter of the thousands of young ives daily sacrificed as the holocaus of war, he solemnly appeals to the rulers that they prepare at once for an interchange of views, since the price in tears and blood demanded by this struggle is too staggering to con-

In the holy name of God, our Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus, whose blessed Blood was given as beseech you whom Divine Providence nations to end the bloody carnage which, for a year, has dishonoured Europe.

Already the words of the Pope have produced gratifying results; demonstrations of sympathy have come from all sides. Men of the most different nationalities, non-Catholics, no less than Catholics have expressed their admiration of the Pope's proposal. May this appeal have the desired effect! May kings and emperors join the Father of the Christian world, the Vicar of the Prince of Peace, in bringing Christ's spirit to earth once again, -America

MINERS THANK PRIEST

A grateful note is sounded in the report of the ending of the Ohio miners' strike, which was settled after fourteen months' struggle. Says N. C. Adams in the Labor Clar-

"Gratitude swelled the breasts of

every dalegate when in the closing ours of the convention the subdis trict officials were instructed to draft suitable resolutions thanking the abor movement as a whole for the splendid support rendered during the dark days of the struggle. The Rev. Roderick McEachen, the little priest of Barton, who sacrificed his full time to assume the chairmanship of relief committee, and his sister, Miss Mary, were exalted as real, tried and true friends of the common good. Those who have followed the strike closely know of the wonderful work of this good priest and his sister. During ast winter Father McEache toured the eastern country in search of contributions, food and clothing The newspapers were filled with ap peals from him. A hundred car loads of clothing were the fruits of his efforts. His sister distributed during the strike over eight hundred baby outfits among the strikers' wives. At his solicitation, the North Wheeling hospital threw open its doors to care for the miners whose condition demanded hospital treatment, free of charge. He was or been the mainstay of the strikers in the subdistrict during the entire controversy. One of his notable achieve-ments was the leasing of coal lands agreeing to give the owner a certain percentage of the products. From these pigeon hole mines the strikers were supplied with coal. "In the little parish school at Bar

ton nearly three hundred children of the strikers continued their studies without paying one cent tuition. This good man's services has been an innovation in labor co has taught that the fundamental Catholic's first thought when he faces death is of the accounting of his deeds that he will be called upon to give. The thoughts of those who

would but practice it in our every day life. And the best part of it all is that he has proved it by faithful service. The debt of gratitude to which he is justly entitled can never he full raid." be fully paid."

THE POPE AS AN ARBITER

When the German Catholic State Federation of Pennsylvania met in its twenty second annual convention at Philadelphia, recently, the principal address at the mass meeting was made by the Hon. M. J. Ryan, City made by the Hon. M. J. Ryan, City Solicitor of Philadelphia, who dealt with the position of the Pope in the present war, and condemned the attempts made to interpret the words or acts of the Sovereign Pontiff, as contending parties, "You and I," said Mr Ryan, "without other responsibility than our loyal allegiance to our country, may give voice to our sentiments if we will, and may be governed therein by our passions and our prejudices, but the Sovereign Pontiff is a power spart and above His spiritual children battle in ever army. They are dying everywhere the armed hosts face each other, and his great heart is torn by the woes of all his human family. He will hold the scales of justice even and from his lips will fall no word that will further intensify men's hatreds and passions and so prevent the word of peace from falling on recentive ears in the coming day when that word may be spoken with effect. With him there will be no sham neutrality -but to him, open minded, forgiving kindly, the war-wearied nations will turn with respect and confidence for in him they will see Christ's Vicar on Earth-that Christ from Whom tranged and that Christ Who meas ures man's iniquities not by fallible human judgments, but, sifting to the heart's core, judges out of the abundance of His mercy."-Sacred Heart

MICHAEL O'LEARY MAKES APPEAL

O'Leary, the Irish V. C., who killed eight Germans, made two others prisoners, and took an enemy series are department. in a crowd of 50,000 in Hyde Park on Saturday. London took the brave Irishman to its heart.

Sergeant O'Leary, a speech being demanded, stepped to the front and said: "Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen-This is more than I expected, even from the people of London. ("We are Irish people!" shouted somebody, and the crowd cheered heartily.) I have done noth. ing more than other men at the front have done and I don't like a fuss. I don't like being made a fuss of and handshaking. I have only done my duty as a soldier and a man. There are quite as many good fellows as me who have fought and are fighting. I happen to be one of the lucky ones. I am proud to fight for my king and country. All I ask you fellows fit to serve is this: Don't stand looking and cheering me. no good. Come and join me. We want more men, so make up your minds to join. That is the only way to put down the German hordes.

SON AND MOTHER

A Lutheran paper makes a com ment on our reference to the Pope's appeal to "Mary, Mother of Mercy," to plead for a restoration of peace. Well, what of it? Did not our Lord say to St. John, as He hung on the Son, behold thy Mother : Mother, behold thy Son?" acknowledgment meant a great deal more than a mere dying wish, as mortals often express with regard to acknowledgment by Divinity of its to the inchoate Church as to its relation to the Mother of God. There is but one Mediator. Who is Christ. between God and man; but a mediator is one who interposes between disputants on grounds of justice on either side. An intercessor is one who pleads for leniency not as of right, but only as a favor. The Catholic Church never put the question in any other way. Luther him-self, irreverent as he was, did not attempt to disparage the claim of Mary as Virgin and Mother, because he saw she was the cornerstone of the edifice of Christianity. The Rev. T. B. Thompson, of the Plymouth Congre-gational Church, Chicago, is quoted as saying in a recent sermon:
The love and veneration of the Vir-

gin Mary plays an important part in the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church. I find no difficulty in appreciating the attitude of the Catholic worshipper toward the Mother of Jesus. He is the love of God made manifest. But Christ Himself has often been made so austere and so unapproachable that a mediator between Him and man has become an not insistent necessity. What is more but natural than to worship Him through on the other hand is the logical sol-ution of our many wrongs—if we — Philadelphia Standard and Times.

CATHOLIC NOTES

More than 20,000 priests are serving in the French army.

In the growing diocese of Pitts-burg there are about 300,000 non-English speaking Catholics.

The new Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, costing \$600,000, will be com-pleted and formally opened next fall.

Mr. Launcelot J. S. Wood has been received into the Church at San Clemente, Rome, by the Very Rev. Prior

Statistics recently compiled show that there are 115,821,100 Catholics now residing in the countries in-

In the beginning of the nineteenth century there were only 120,000 Caththere were 1865 000. Seven years later there were 2,190,000, and the number is increasing every year.

Recently an exhibition of the works of Ivan Mestrovic, the young Slav sculptor, was held in London. The list of his works contained about seventy entries. He has achieved considerable fame on the continent as well. Mestrovic is a Catholic.

A world-wide movement for a great public novena of prayers and Masses in honor of Our Lady of Victory for the speedy beatification of Sceur Therese of the Carmel of Lisieux (the Little Flower of Jesus), and for the intentions of her clients is being started.

The pluck of Miss Rose Shea, the only Catholic graduate of Amityville, L. I., High school, who refused to take her diploma in a Protestant church, as had been planned, forced the School Board to have the exercises in the Theater of the town. Miss Shea was leader in her class and had been chosen valedictorian.

A Department of sociology has been established at Notre Dame University, and the Rev. John C. McGinn appointed as dean. Sociology has been a subject of study at Notre Dame for several years, in connection with the College of History and

At a public procession in Bermondsey, on a recent Sunday, soldiers narched in the ranks, for the first time in the history of this mission. Following the representations of the various patron saints of Great Britain. Belgium, Russia and Italy, were a detachment of English artillery and a company of Belgian soldiers. Belgian refugees also took

In the presence of senators, deputies, members of the French Academy and of every branch of national activ-ity, the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Amette, on the Montmastre, conse crated France to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. All the previous night the men of Paris kept watch before the Blessed Sacrament. The Sacred Host was raised above and over

Out of 3.212 students in the Illinois State University, about 8 per cent. or 214 are Catholics. But of the faculty, not 1 per cent. are Catholics. Now, if Catholics make a plea for better representation in the higher walks of public education, they are criticized for raising a sectarian issue. And if they do nothing in the matter at all, they are reproached for not possessing enough intellectual and highly educated men for university positions.

Three St. Louisans, one of them s priest, and all instructors at St. Louis University, will brave the dangers of the Central American wilds in order The expedition is under the auspices f St. Louis University. The men who will make the trip are: Dr. Edward Nelson Tobey, an instructor in tropical diseases; Dr. John P. in tropical diseases; Dr. Coony, S. J., peofessor of chemistry at St. Louis University, and Rev. A. special study of geology.

There are no less than 105 Catho lic publications in the small king-dom of Holland. There are 96 Catholic religious houses of men, 22 convents of contemplative Sisters, and 430 houses of nursing Sisters, with 12,000 members, Holland has not as yet a Catholic university. It has 730 primary schools, with 125,000 pupils; also 21 Catholic colleges and 5 diecesan seminaries. The 2.000,000 Catholics of Holland are divided into 1,120 parishes. There is a church or chapel for every 1,300 of the faithful.

Foreign exchanges chronicle the death of the Most Rev. John O'Reilly, D. D., Archbishop of Adelaide, South Australia. The deceased prelate, who was born in the city of Kilkenny on November 9, 1846, came of a military family, his father and seven of his uncles having served in the army. His Grace was educated at St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. and All Hallows College, Dublin, and was ordained in 1869. For seventeen years he labored in Western Australia and edited the Western Australian Record.