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Current Comment

(Continued from page 1)

'We were too proud of our city, we offended God, we will do better. It seems that the Jesuit Fathers have suffered great losses. They could save nothing, and are now the guests of another community. After enumerating all their ruins, Father Frieden, Superior of the Jesuits in California, writes to Mother St. Bernard: 'Kindly tell all the Sisters that I am overflowing with joy, more consoled in my poverty than in our past success.' It has seemed to me that you would be glad to read these details in which the Helpers of the Holy Souls appear so strikingly as the spoilt children of Providence, and in which their gratitude and their love for that Divine assistance find so much reason for increase. Please help us to pay our debt of thanksgiving.'

Degrees were conferred and medals and scholarships awarded on Friday of last week. The students of St. Boniface College figured well at this solemn convocation of the University of Manitoba. They carried off the two Greek scholarships in competition with candidates from all other colleges, and as Greek is an optional subject, taken only by the better class of students, viz., those who are preparing for theology or who have a taste for the ancient classics, this scholarship is probably the most honorable distinction in the gift of the University. In the second year Edmond Fretz, of Grand Forks, N.D., who had also won the \$60 scholarship for French, Philosophy and Latin, being precluded by the regulations from receiving money for more than one scholarship, preferred, for the honor of his college, the Greek \$40 scholarship, and received only Honorable Mention for the other. In the first year Phenix Decosse captured the Greek scholarship against all comers. The money, \$60, for the French, Philosophy and Latin scholarship of the second year goes to Louis Joseph Mailhot, who came just after E. Fretz. In the same year Joseph Albert Auger took the English \$40 scholarship for French-speaking students. In the first year the French \$40 scholarship for French-speaking students went to Jacques Prendergast, and the History \$20 scholarship for French-speaking students to Rosario Joseph Prince. In the third year there are two scholarships for the Latin course of philosophy, one of \$100, the other of \$75; two of our candidates, Alexandre Bernier and Joseph Chabot, came out with equal marks in first place, and therefore divided the sum, each one receiving \$87.50. In the fourth and final university year of the same course, Jacques Mondor received the silver medal and Alexandre Beupre, the bronze medal. These two, of course, graduated with first class honors. J. O. Plante and Antoine Dubuc graduated in class 2.

The general averages of our students take high place in the published class lists. Thus, out of 74 candidates who passed, without total failure, the First Year examination, 12 were from St. Boniface, i.e., about 16 per cent. of the whole number. Now, in this whole number only 13 reached a total standing of 1B, i.e., secured an average of between 67 and 80 per cent.; but 5 of these 13 were from St. Boniface College; consequently, 5 out of 13, or more than 38 per cent., of the St. Boniface College candidates, reached an average of 1B, while only eight out of 64 candidates from four other colleges, or 12½ per cent., reached the same high average. In the Second year examination 49 from five different colleges or non-collegiate, passed. The only one to reach a total standing of 1A, i.e., 80 per cent. or more, was Edmond Fretz, of St. Boniface College. Twelve of the 49 reached 1B, but three of these were from St. Boniface, which presented only five candidates. Compare 9 out of 44 with 3 out of 5, not quite one-fifth with three-fifths, and the contrast is to say the least striking. In the third year our two candidates obtained 1B. In the Fourth Year two out of our four graduates obtained 1A in every subject.

Once more we record with pleasure the admirable temper of the large audience assembled in the Winnipeg theatre to do honor to the University heroes. In that overwhelmingly non-Catholic assemblage of young and old, the young largely predominating, our Catholic winners received just as cordial applause as was given to the others. And these highest assizes of education are the most courteous and decorous in the Dominion. There is none of that boisterousness or yelling which mars such gatherings elsewhere, even in the classic haunts of the Isis and the Cam.

Convocation, which took place immediately after the crowd had dispersed, was unusually interesting. In the first place it was decided that this plenary assembly, which hitherto has been markedly partial instead of plenary, owing to the weariness of the formal proceedings that come just before, will meet in the evening, at 8.30, of the Degree conferring ceremony. It is hoped that the interval between 4.30, the usual hour for the close of the ceremonial function, and 8.30 will allow of a foregathering of all the graduates, and that thus Convocation will no longer be a meeting of a jaded corporal's guard eager to get the thing done and over.

Another question, mooted but not discussed, was the increase of representation of Convocation on the Council. Convocation once had only three representatives there; then the number was raised to seven, and later on to ten, the present representation. There is some talk of giving Convocation half or more than half the total membership of the Council. As there are at present, apart from the ten members elected by Convocation, 45 other members of the Council, this would mean that Convocation would elect at least 22 members. This we believe to be a menace to the best interests of the University. There are very few educationists, with experience in higher education outside of the colleges, and these few are easily included in the ten members now elected. The rest of the proposed 22 would be irresponsible graduates, with no experience as university teachers, but with a vast capacity for destructive criticism and for urging upon the University untried and shallow theories, which have ultimately to be abandoned as delusions. Were this element to preponderate, it would be a case of the tail wagging the dog.

Thoroughly ventilated, thanks to the bold initiative of Dr. J. K. Barrett, was the grievance of the St. Boniface College candidate for election being turned down year after year for the past ten years. All the speakers protested that they did not mean to exclude him. The parallel case of Wesley college, which for several years could secure the election of no candidate, was forcibly insisted on. The practice of most medical graduates voting for none but doctors was also touched upon. In fact narrowness was goodhumoredly condemned on all sides. But will they change? Do they mean what they say? We shall see next September.

Prof. Osborne distinguished himself by pleading for a live President with a fixed salary, which, as was immediately pointed out, he made too small. But the objection was raised that we must first define our University policy before electing a President. This brought out the usual claptrap about sinking college interests in wider university interests. To which was made the very obvious reply that, as the University of Manitoba is now constituted, it is a commonwealth of colleges, and has no existence outside of collegiate effort. So nothing was decided and the members went home to reflect on all the good advice Rev. Dr. Duval had given them in his highly moral and edifying address to the graduates.

Things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs.—George Eliot.

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Persons and Facts

(Continued from page 1)

depth amidships 45 feet; tonnage, 14,500; horsepower, 18,000. The telegram from Ottawa saying that the Empress of Britain is the largest steamer that ever arrived at Quebec, is, however, mistaken. The Great Eastern which arrived at Quebec 45 years ago in 1861, was much larger in every way, as the following measurements show: length, 680 feet; beam, 83 ft.; depth, 58 ft.; draught 37 ft.; tonnage, 24,000. But the Great Eastern's horsepower was only 10,000 and its best speed, which it seldom if ever attained, was only 16½ statute miles, not knots, an hour, whereas the Empress of Britain in its first voyage actually averaged more than 19½ statute miles (17 knots) an hour. On the other hand the best day's run of the Empress of Britain was only 452 knots, while the Lucania has made 560 knots in one day. We are still far from the New York ocean records.

As the population of our city is fast spreading westward, near the C.P.R. shops and other hives of industry, His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, foreseeing that there would soon be room for a new parish in that district, has bought for \$18,000, a fine piece of land, 250 by 600 feet at the corner of Arlington street and Notre Dame avenue, on which there is but one small wooden house which will be removed as soon as the parish has been properly organized. Rev. Father Woodcutter has been charged with this office and has already made a thorough canvass of the district. He finds that it contains from 100 to 150 English-speaking Catholic families. Several Catholic real estate agents are actively engaged in locating Catholics there. Thus the new parish will be mainly an English speaking one. But, as Father Woodcutter can preach in the Hungarian language, the Hungarian Catholics of this city who number nearly one hundred families will also attend this church, where there will be special sermons for them.

Mr. T. J. Murray, vice-president of St. Mary's Lyceum, has recently severed his connection with the law firm of Andrews, Andrews, Murray and Noble, and has formed a law partnership with Mr. W. J. Donovan, under the style and title of Donovan & Murray. Their offices are in suite No. 31, Aikins Building, McDermot avenue.

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The "Scientific American," of May 12, under the heading, "What science loses by the earthquake," says: "Of schools and colleges destroyed, the most noted was St. Ignatius, a college of the Jesuit Fathers, located on Van Ness Avenue, and the first established in San Francisco. The Society also lost its magnificent church, built in the style of the Spanish Renaissance and richly decorated. College and church cannot be replaced for less than a million and a half dollars. Twenty-eight public schools of all classes were burned."

The Menlo Park Academy of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, which last week was reported uninjured by the earthquake, is now said to be in ruins. The nuns and girls escaped without serious injury of any kind.

Automobiles did splendid service during the San Francisco fire. Two hundred of them scoured the whole city, in which trolleys were no more, rescuing many lives and saving many districts by rapidly transporting dynamite to the places where it was most needed. One millionaire, when awakened by the earthquake in the Palace Hotel, coolly dressed himself among the falling debris, and then rushed directly to the garage where his mighty auto was stored. Then, for fourteen consecutive hours he went flying about the city, his face a mass of ashes and sand, and carried heavy loads of dynamite to the places indicated by the police.

"Town Topics" is urging the introduction of Sunday cars and priding itself on being the only paper that has advocated them. This is one more instance of the Protestant dodge of loftily ignoring everything Catholic. We may not have so large a circulation as Town "Topics," but we have, to put it mildly, quite as much influence, and we have said stronger things in favor of Sunday cars than ever C. W. H. did. However, we strongly endorse his condemnation of the double fare after eleven o'clock; it is a mean, "measly" regulation. One more point we would insist on: the roadbed of the electric cars opposite the Grey Nun Mother House and Hospice Tache is so seriously undermined by erosion of the Red River that the conductors always approach it at night with fear and trembling. Will the relentless Company not be moved to action till a dozen men and women get killed by the car falling down the high river bank? Will the St. Boniface Council never rise to a

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Dr. J. E. JONES, M.D. &
Dr. W. M. ROGERS, M.D.

Consulting Staff Surgeons:
Dr. W. S. ENGLAND, M.D.,
Dr. J. H. McARTHUR, M.D.,
Dr. R. MACKENZIE, M.D.

Attending Physicians:
Dr. J. H. O. LAMBERT, M.D., Dr. C. A. MACKENZIE, M.D., Dr. R. W. NICHOLS, M.D., Dr. W. Z. FEATMAN, M.D.

Attending Surgeons:
Dr. J. O. TODD, M.D.,
Dr. JAS. McKENTY, M.D.,
Dr. J. E. LEHMANN, M.D.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:
Dr. J. W. GOOD, M.D.

Children's Ward Physicians:
Dr. J. E. DAVIDSON, M.D.,
Dr. G. A. DUBUC, M.D.,
Dr. A. J. SLATER, M.D.

Isolated Ward Physicians:
Dr. J. H. DEVINE, M.D., Dr. J. P. HOWDEN, M.D., Dr. J. HALPENNY, M.D., Dr. W. A. GARDNER, M.D.

Pathologist:
Dr. G. BELL, M.D.,
Dr. F. J. MACLEAN, M.D.,
Dr. W. M. TURNBULL, M.D. Assistant

There is in St. Boniface Hospital a Ward for C. N. E. patients, who are attended by physicians appointed by the C. N. E. Co. They are: Dr. C. A. Mackenzie, Dr. R. Mackenzie, and Dr. Wm. Rogers. And a second Ward for C. F. E. patients, attended by Dr. Moorehead, who is appointed by the C. F. E. Co.

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