

Father McLaughlin Carries A. O. H. Convention

TELLS AMERICANS THAT FLAG OF BRITAIN IS OUR TALISMAN—EFFECTIVE SPEECH AT BIG GATHERING.

A despatch from Boston to the St. John press last week intimated that the Canadian delegates to the Hibernian national convention were not in accord with some of the proceedings in reference to international affairs. Later despatches showed that on Wednesday morning, the day following the opening of the convention, Rev. C. J. McLaughlin, formerly of this city, took the lead and objected in a fighting speech to some of the references that had been made to international affairs.

The President had no sooner made his report than Father McLaughlin arose and said in part:

Mr. President and brother Hibernians I beg to register my solemn protest against certain utterances made here since the opening of this convention. Mr. President I was thrilled with pride yesterday morning as I witnessed the magnificent display of loyalty by my brother Hibernians living under the American flag. When your prelate, governor and mayor entered this vast auditorium to the strains of the Star Spangled Banner, the outbursts of applause and enthusiasm shown by the citizens of fair Columbia were indeed a spectacle for angels and for men.

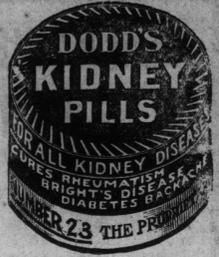
"Patriotism ever burns in the heart of a true Hibernian. I would remind you Mr. President and brothers that this organization is composed of members owing allegiance to different flags and, sir, may I inform you that the fires of patriotism burn not less bright within the bosoms of the Canadian Hibernians for the British flag than it does within the breast of the American citizens for the Star Spangled Banner.

"Hibernian that I am, I am also a British subject. Britain's flag is our talisman. The Roman citizen of old gloried in the title of Roman citizenship. Let me, sir, assure you to-day that the Canadian delegates here assembled glory in the proud title of Canadian-British citizenship, and, sir, I would indeed be unworthy of the race and the land from which I came if I were to sit here this morning and offer no protest to some of the remarks that I have heard made here.

"Stranger though I am here and should I stand alone this morning in my protest—which I do not—I shall not hesitate to demand the same courtesy for a Canadian citizen that we are prepared to extend to others.

"Mr. President were I a timid man I would not dare to stand where I now do. When duty bids me act I do not know what fear is. All my life and especially for the last ten years I have stood out in the open forum and dealt with questions that called for action. I have been the object of attack and innuendo but never of a specific charge of partisanship or base narrow-mindedness. I have received blows and I have returned them. I have always endeavored to give a Roland for an Oliver every time. I shall ever be found giving the "square deal" to every man, no matter what may be his race, creed or nationality but, Sir, let me say that the same fairness that I am prepared to show to others I want for myself in due turn.

"Therefore, in the presence of this vast delegation gathered from the four corners of this great continent, ob-



ject to anything being said or done here that would wound our susceptibilities as British subjects. You have referred to the recent unhappy Dublin incident. It is history repeating itself. We all deplore what has come to pass. If the Dublin people followed John E. Redmond and his Nationalists we would not to-day be mourning the loss of life in that unfortunate affair. You speak of the sorrow and mourning in the homes of the Irish Dublinites because of those who fell in the Dublin uprising but you have no sympathy for the thousands of homes throughout Ireland, throughout the British Empire, France and the other allied nations plunged in gloom, grief and sadness through the greed, fendishness and irreligion of him who guides the destinies of the German Fatherland.

"Since coming here I have been asked about the sentiment of the Canadian Irish in this war. Let me answer it here by telling you that the hearts of the Canadian Irish beat true and that Canadians of all classes, Irish included, are prepared to stand by Britain in this crisis to the last man and the last dollar. There are 400,000 British subjects of Irish descent at the front under the British flag. They are prepared to see this thing through to the end.

"No doubt exists to-day in the minds of Canadians of all classes as to the successful outcome of the struggle for the Allies. It is characteristic of the Irish when they start in a thing to see it through to a finish, and let me say right here that when this war is over there will be no more "German peril" or fear of German aggression from Luther's land.

"Mr. President, I would therefore suggest that all questions of an international character be ruled out during this convention." Father McLaughlin's utterances were received with the deepest interest and at the conclusion of his speech he was warmly congratulated by the hundreds of delegates who gathered round him to congratulate him on the stand he had taken and to assure him that the convention was with him. The matters to which Father McLaughlin took exception were referred to the committees on resolutions and foreign affairs and each reported by according to Father McLaughlin's request.—New Freeman, July 29.

Health Hints.
Have you ever noticed a bread wagon with the doors wide open and the dust and dirt from the street blowing in over the bread? Just stop and think of the dirt, and you will always ask your Grocer for Lynch's Bread wrapped and sealed by machinery in a dust and germ-proof wrapper.—jyls,lf

PROSPECTORS PROSPECTS ARE POOR.—We learn from passengers on yesterday's train that the gold diggers prospecting in the vicinity of Day de Verde have so far met with poor success.

Filming the Big Push

THE KINEMA MAN AT THE FRONT. (Daily Mail.)

Almost as soon as the war began cinematograph operators were attached to the Russian, French, and German Armies, but it was not until last September that British operators were allowed to go to the front to take pictures. Even then they moved towards the trenches by slow degrees, the idea being to show pictures of the soldiers' lives at the front and to lead up gradually to the point where actual fighting was to be seen.

The earlier pictures, however, greatly displeased the cinema trade Press, which denounced them as "tame and instructional." As the operators neared the firing line their pictures were still described as dull, although some of them had gone through great perils to get them. When they sent us pictures of the trenches and of the men engaged in sniping, or in other dangerous work, they were classed as merely interesting. A picture showing a company of soldiers doubling across an exposed position, which was frequently shelled, aroused no comment, not even a word for the brave operator, who stood in the very centre of the exposed position illustrating with his camera the dangerous nature of it for the troops. Apparently the pictures were too real, too much like actual war conditions, and too little like those imagined by the stay-at-homes. Something almost approaching a boycott of these films was the result.

A fine film of the ruins of Ypres made no appeal, possibly because no account of how it was secured was put upon the screen. There was one occasion when the operators on the way to Ypres had to lie in a roadside ditch for two hours while German shells burst over sectors of the road, so close to them at times that, had they been on the road itself, they would have been blown to pieces. On one occasion a car preceding theirs was blown to pieces with the occupants in it.

When first the operators attempted to get pictures of the German lines from the trenches they had not realized the close watch of the German sniper. The camera fixed on a tripod was raised above the parapet to the level of the lens. In a few seconds it became a target for bullets, but the operator calmly turned the handle, taking his pictures at the regulation speed of sixteen per second, until a ricochet hit the camera and put it out of action.

At another time he climbed the tower of a ruined church to get a good picture. The Germans look upon church towers as artillery observation posts and shell them accordingly. He had turned the handle but a few minutes when shells burst dangerously near, so he came down, not before he had secured the picture he wanted. By next morning the church tower had disappeared. A week afterwards the entire building was a heap of rubbish.

Avoiding Snipers.
The pictures he secured of British shells bursting over the German trenches may, on the screen, look like very ordinary explosions, but the taking of them with British and German shells shrieking overhead, and occasionally enemy shells exploding within a few hundred yards, was a nerve-trying experience.

On another occasion he was alone in a dugout for the purpose of recording a British attempt to blow up a German blockhouse. In order to get a good picture he had to make a hole in the dugout facing the German lines. Through this hole, although exposed to enemy shells and bullets, he secured one of the most thrilling pictures ever seen.

Another of these men, who must be among the coolest in all the ranks of war, came back on leave recently with two bullet holes in his service cap. His greatest triumph will be found in the series of pictures released next week. These show the bursting of British mines under German trenches, so close to the camera as to make one wonder how the operator escaped the falling earth.

To get these pictures required a strong nerve and not a little cunning. The lessons of the past had been learned. The camera was no longer exposed to enemy snipers. The tripod fixed in the trenches, the next thing was to place the camera that the lens had a clear view. In one instance this was done by putting two extra sandbags on the parapet, with the lens of the camera pointing through the opening between the bags, a sack being suspended over camera and sandbags so as to cover any movements during the "take."

On another occasion wire was stretched over the camera, and on the top a sack was placed. In both instances German snipers saw the movements in the British trench and opened fire. Unable to hit the spot the Huns brought up a machine gun, and just as they were about to riddle the camera the mine went up, and with it machine gun, Huns, and

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scores of bombs, which exploded in the air. But the operator got his picture. Elated with his success, he took down his camera, and as he did so a couple of bullets went through his cap, which fell into the trench. Dragging his camera, which weighs thirty-five pounds, he hurried down the trench and soon got to a village. As he entered it the Germans started to drop "tear" shells. Finding his car at the appointed spot he rushed out of the village where the air was clear. Then the car fell into a ditch and the operator had to carry his camera to headquarters, where he made his report and delivered the films—which the public will shortly see from the comfort of an armchair.

German Prisoners made Useful.
The last of the operators to leave for the front was a man who three years ago directed a film battle of Waterloo. With forty-eight hours' notice he left England a few days before the memorable First of July. He is now in London for a few days before returning to follow up the British troops in the advance, having brought to England some remarkably fine pictures of the early stages of the advance at Fricourt and Mametz.

With bullets whizzing all around them, knocking up spurts of dirt almost at their feet, the camera operators who accompanied the British Army in the advance calmly turned the handles of their machines, securing pictures of mine explosions, fine pictures of the intensive bombardment of the German lines, and, when the infantry advanced to the charge, equally good pictures of prisoners being brought in, and, in the distance, our troops marching across open country.

One operator tells me that he borrowed a German prisoner, who carried his camera for him, to the front. In his five days of picture-taking he experienced the discomforts of arrest, although he was wearing a British officer's uniform. But these things must be, and are part of the risks one takes when armed with nothing more than a camera.

These men, straight from civil life, accustomed, it is true, to adventure in the search for pictures, are undoubtedly brave. Their work deserves a better fate, as Lord Derby recently said, than to be sandwiched between pictures of Charlie Chaplin.

Germans Won't Molest Dutch Ships.

London, August 2.—The German government has given a pledge to hold and not destroy or molest Dutch ships carrying foodstuffs to England, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Express. This decision is the result of a visit to Berlin of Cornelius J. K. Van Aalst, president of the Overseas Trust, and another Dutch commissioner. The Express says Van Aalst presented an ultimatum to the authorities in Berlin to the following effect: "Unless Germany agree not to interfere with Dutch ships bound for England with food cargoes, Holland will close her eastern frontier. Otherwise the Entente may stop dealing in exports from America and the Dutch colonies."

The trip of the Dutch commissioner was the result of representations by the Entente that Holland was selling large quantities of food stuffs in Germany, while her food trade with Great Britain had almost ceased. Holland replied that trade with England was made dangerous by German submarines. Van Aalst, fearing reprisals by the Entente, then undertook the trip to Berlin and after a series of conferences obtained Germany's acceptance of his demands.

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