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CURRENT COMMENT

The Tribune, which—we are happy to chronicle that pleasing feature in its columns where so much is unfortunately quite otherwise—published the sprightliest and most welcome report of Earl Grey's visit to St. Boniface College, somewhat spoiled the good effect of its momentary lapse into geniality by editorially criticizing His Excellency's congratulations to Canada on her dual language system. The oracle of McDermot avenue solemnly avers that "no country in which two official languages are in general use has ever amounted to anything." What about Belgium, where French and Flemish are the two official languages in such general use that they appear cheek by jowl on the national postage-stamps? Belgium, surely, amounts to a great deal. It is, to say the least, one of the most prosperous countries in the world. There is in Belgium more general solvency, more widespread comfort among the working classes, more intelligent and active self-government than in any other country on the face of the globe.

However, the Tribune's ignorance of other countries is not surprising, when we see how little it knows of its own. "The French Canadians," it says, "would like to hear only French spoken; the English Canadians desire that their own tongue be recognized." Both these statements are sadly askew, the first being utterly false, and the second being a ridiculous understatement of the fact. We, who have spent most of our life among French Canadians, have never met a single one who "would like to hear only French spoken." Of course they like to hear their own people speak their mother tongue, but they are not such fools as to wish that English-Canadians should give up their own language and speak nothing but French. Yet that is the only rational construction we can put on the Tribune's dictum. On the contrary, the French Canadians everywhere, even in the exclusively French districts of Quebec, are very anxious to learn English, and if they are precluded by advanced age from doing so themselves, they insist on their children learning English. On the other hand, to say, as the Tribune does, that the English Canadians merely "desire that their own tongue be recognized," is like painting the roaring lion as a gentle dove. If they only desired due recognition of their own tongue, the majority of English Canadians would not make such a fuss about one-third of the Canadian people using the French language. What this truculent majority really desires is the absolute extinction of the French language in Canada. We say advisedly "the majority of English-speaking Canadians," and we mean thereby especially the majority who do not live in the Province of Quebec, for most educated English-speaking people in Quebec value highly their own knowledge of French and are keenly alive to the immense advantage of knowing the two leading languages of the world. But in the other provinces of Canada, more particularly in this province and Ontario, there are vast multitudes who have an ignorant and insane horror of the French language.

The real but unavowed motive of that stupid contempt for a language of which no educated man would willingly admit his ignorance is antagonism to the religion of the French Canadians. It is idle to proclaim, as the Tribune constantly proclaims, that our great object should be to become a united people, while at the same time that hypocritical sheet vilely caricatures the religion of the French Canadians and jeers at their dearest convictions. Listen to our local Pecksniff: "Canadians can never blend and become one people, so long as the lines of race and speech are sharply drawn as they are to day." Pray, who draws them so sharply but the Tribune and its sympathizers? Who are those that per-

secute and ostracize Catholics in all the walks of life? For, remember, "race and speech" in the Tribune's jargon, means religion. If the Tribune sincerely desired that Canadians should become a united people, it ought to begin a crusade against all the secret societies whose chief aim is to insult Catholics and keep them out of lucrative employment. Here is one example out of many. Carberry is a fairly prosperous Manitoba town, 105 miles west of Winnipeg. A few Catholics, attracted by the rich wheat fields of that district, have settled there. But orangeism, daily growing more aggressive in Carberry, strives to make their residence in that town intolerable. When the devoted Redemptorist missionary goes there to minister to the spiritual needs of his coreligionists, he is generally greeted with jeers and insults from men in their Sunday clothes whose only idea of religion is hatred of the Pope. Some weak-kneed Catholics, yielding to the storm of bigotry, have ceased to practise their religion, but without swelling the ranks of Protestantism or enhancing their own value as citizens. Most of the Catholics, however, are true to their faith in spite of this disgusting fanaticism. Will the Tribune, in its zeal for a "united people," raise its voice in protest and try to shame the Orange hoodlums of Carberry? No; it will do as all its non-Catholic contemporaries did some years ago when another zealous Redemptorist, Father Vermieren, was brutally struck in the face so as to endanger his eyesight, by a burly Orangeman in broad daylight in the streets of Souris, Manitoba, without any provocation at all. The papers tried to hush the matter up or carefully eschewed any allusion to an outrage that would have disgraced unspeakable Belfast. So will the Tribune do in the matter of Carberry's regular Sunday flouting of the Catholic priest, and meanwhile it will continue to prate about how blessed a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

The meddlesome and misleading articles from Collier's Weekly, which were so deservedly scored last week by one of our correspondents, proved a delicious morsel for the Telegram, which reprinted them in a special editorial as "an independent expression of opinion that must carry weight." Independent fudge! The striking family likeness between the Telegram, the Tribune, the St. Paul and Minneapolis correspondences presumably from the Winnipeg Tribune office, and Collier's Weekly on the school question, clearly points to a conspiracy of misrepresentation. But what the Telegram carefully avoids reprinting is Collier's Weekly's reference to "the saffron press which exploits remediable evils only for the purposes for which it manufactures daily lies and in every incident substitutes for the 'modesty of nature' a coarse, insistent din."

"An American," writing to the Edmonton Bulletin gets off a good joke on Mr. Bennett, the Hon. W. G. Haultain's right bower in the present electoral campaign. "From what Mr. Bennett says," writes this new arrival from the south, "there are only about two straight politicians in public life—himself and Mr. Haultain, and at times he has had his doubts about Haultain." To anyone who has ever met the "superior purzon" of Saskatchewan, this characterization of Mr. Bennett is singularly lifelike. If you took him at his own valuation the premiership of Canada would be slightly beneath his deserts.

DROPPED ALL OTHERS

"I dropped all liniments but Nerviline because I found Nerviline the quickest to relieve pain," writes E. S. Benton of St. John's. "If my children are croupy or sick, Nerviline cures them. If a case of cramps or stomach ache turns up, Nerviline is ever ready. We use Nerviline for neuralgia, rheumatism and all kinds of aches and pains; it's as good as any doctor." The great Canadian remedy for the past fifty years has been Polson's Nerviline—nothing better made.

Clerical News

The venerable Father Lacombe, who is now in his 79th year, arrived here on Tuesday of last week to consult with His Grace on important matters. He visited St. Boniface College on Wednesday and was welcomed by the many students from Alberta. On Thursday he returned to Pincher Creek.

Father Blain, S.J., went on Saturday, the 7th inst to Grafton, N. Dak., where in the absence of the pastor, Father J. B. McDonald, he said an early Mass at which he preached in English and French, sang the High Mass and preached during it in English, and after his first meal drove to Oakwood, where he sang Vespers and preached in French for Father Lee. He then returned to Grafton in time to meet Father McDonald, who had said Mass at Drayton.

Father Meleux, pastor of Rainy River, came here on Tuesday of last week to arrange with Father Drummond for a lecture which the latter will deliver at Rainy River on 20th inst. Father Meleux returned home on Wednesday, the 11th.

His Lordship Bishop Pascal arrived here on Tuesday, Oct. 10, on his way to St. Paul to confer with the Superior of the Benedictines on matters connected with the large Benedictine colony in the Prince Albert diocese, and left for St. Paul last Saturday.

Rev. Father E. Lecompte, Superior General of the Jesuits in Canada, arrived here from the east on Saturday, the 7th, was welcomed by his brethren of St. Boniface College during the day, and left in the small hours of the following morning, by the delayed westbound transcontinental, via Vancouver and steamer for San Francisco, where he was present at the golden jubilee of St. Ignatius College on the 15th inst, and will confer with the heads of the order gathered there from all parts of America. Father Lecompte is expected back here for his annual visitation towards the end of this month. It is hoped that he will be here in time for the dramatic entertainment on the 30th inst. by the students of St. Boniface College.

Father Joseph Poitras will take next Sunday's services at St. Norbert, whence the pastor, Father Cloutier, starts this week for a trip to the home of his family in Quebec.

Father A. Giroux, pastor of La Broquerie, was here last Tuesday, returning the same day.

Father Drummond went to Austin last Sunday, where he was the guest of the Hon. Walter Clifford, who wished to have special services during the short visit of his twin sister, Mrs. Harding. Both the morning Mass and the afternoon rosary and Benediction, with appropriate sermons each time, were very well attended, and there was a large number of communions on Sunday and Monday mornings.

On Thursday afternoon Father Drummond left by the C.N.R. for Rainy River, where he lectures on Friday and preaches next Sunday, returning on Monday.

Archbishop Farley has made application to the Holy see for a priest able to speak the Chinese language, who will look after the spiritual welfare of the Catholic Chinese of New York City. He considers this mission field among the Mongolians there as an important one.

It is but a year ago that five Chinese merchants of Chinatown were baptized on the same afternoon at the Paulists' church. They received their instructions in the teachings of the Church from the Paulists through an interpreter. There are many such waiting for an opportunity to become converts, and there is no doubt that the proposed mission will prove successful.

Persons and Facts

Judge and Mrs. Prud'homme left on Monday for a tour through Europe and the Holy Land. In Rome they will meet their son, Father Joseph Prud'homme, who is taking a post graduate course for the Doctorate of Theology.

Mrs. Harding, twin sister of the Hon. Walter Clifford, and daughter of the eighth Baron Clifford of Chudleigh, who is visiting her brother at Austin, Man., will return to England next week.

Mr. Jean Baptiste Poitras, of Norwood will be married next Tuesday at St. Norbert to Miss Anna Lachance, of that parish, by his brother, Father Joseph Poitras.

In the Archbishop's private chapel at St. Boniface, on Thursday morning, the 19th inst, Mr. Joseph James Lauzon of Winnipeg, was married to Miss St. Jean, of St. Boniface by Right Rev. Monsignor Dugas, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lauzon, parents of the bridegroom, gave a grand dinner at six the same evening, at their fine residence in Athol Avenue, in honor of the happy event.

Telegrams have come from Montreal to the Sisters of the Holy Names announcing that the General Chapter of their order has re-elected Mother Mary of the Rosary for a second term. Other elections are: Mother Thais, first assistant; Mother Laurent, second assistant; Mother Delphine, general bursar; Mother Martin of the Ascension, general secretary. Mother Mary Angelica returns as Superior to St. Mary's Academy next week.

On Thursday of last week Miss Christina Wilson, of Winnipeg, and Miss Marie Bellemare, of Wild Rice, N. Dak., left for Montreal to become postulants in the novitiate of the Sisters of the Holy names at Hochelaga. Miss Charlotte Dorval, of Langdon, N. Dak., leaves with the same object in view this week.

The viceregal party, whose sojourn here last week was so welcome to all classes, were particularly gracious to Catholics. The day after their arrival, on the evening of Sunday, the 8th inst., Father Drummond was the only clergyman invited to dine with Their Excellencies and some twenty-five guests at Government House, where Sir Daniel McMillan, our model Lieutenant Governor, whose splendid hospitality was evidently greatly appreciated by his noble guests, invited him to say grace. Earl Grey expressed his delight at meeting him, for, said he, the Jesuits of Rhodesia were among his best friends while he was governor there. He used to make it a point to visit them every Sunday and enjoy their cultured conversation. On Tuesday morning, Oct. 10, Lady Grey and Lady Evelyn Grey, at their own suggestion, visited the Catholic Maternity Hospital, where Her Excellency manifested the warmest interest in the noble work of the Sisters of Misericorde. They visited the house from top to bottom and conversed with the patients in the most winning way. Father Allard, O.M.I., and Father Drummond, S.J., with all the Sisters, received the distinguished guests, to whom the lay nurses presented two beautiful bouquets. The following Thursday, on leaving St. Boniface College to drive to St. Boniface Hospital, His Excellency kindly offered to give the Rector, Father Dugas, "a lift." The visit of Earl Grey and his daughter to that hospital was another proof of his interest in Catholic institutions. Wherever the viceregal party went—and they were indefatigable in their visits—they won all hearts by their evidently genuine interest in the country, their wide and intimate knowledge of present conditions and their sincere belief in our great future.

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THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN ST. BONIFACE

The Tribune of the 12th inst. thus genially summed up the proceedings at St. Boniface College on Thursday of last week, at 10.30 a.m.

"They do these things so much better in France," said a distinguished British statesman years ago, and there is little doubt that St. Boniface can give pointers to Winnipeg in the reception of a governor general.

The receptions this morning to his Excellency and Lady Evelyn Grey at St. Boniface College and St. Boniface hospital were more than adroitly managed social functions.

There was an apparent spontaneity in the receptions of the vice-regal visitors, a graceful ease in every incident of the well-considered programme and the only contre temps was turned into a matter of delightful amusement.

The two little boys of the junior school, when the time came to read their addresses in French and English to Lady Grey, looked confusedly for a minute at the youthful face and figure of Lady Evelyn, the only lady of the vice-regal party present, and then bravely read on their prettily worded speeches, intended for Lady Evelyn's mother. Her youthful ladyship was quick to realize the mistake and her smiling face added to the confusion of the youngsters, but, without a hitch, the speeches were delivered, the poetry read and the bouquet presented, and the little fellows, with a dazed look in their young faces at the appearance of the one they had addressed in such exalted terms, whose eyes twinkled with fun and whose years were not much more than their own, retired amid a tumult of applause.

It gave his Excellency an opportunity to adroitly relieve the somewhat stilted nature of such proceedings by a humorous reference to the amusing situation.

The Archbishop's palace had given the signal to the whole town of St. Boniface, which was in its gala dress to receive the Governor General, by hoisting all its flags. At St. Boniface College, where His Excellency was due to make his first visit at 10.30, flags were flying to the breeze from every point of vantage. Over the main entrance the arms of the College were surrounded by the British, Papal and French colors, and the flag of the Sacred Heart. In the hall and in the main parlor there were more displays of flags.

The Welcome

Earl Grey accompanied by Lady Evelyn arrived at the College punctually on time. His carriage was escorted from the College gates by the College Cadets with beat of drum and blare of bugle. His Excellency, who was met at the carriage door by Father Drummond, expressed his admiration of the soldierly bearing of the cadets, whom he inspected with an approving glance. Earl Grey then explained that Lady Grey, who had been announced, was unavoidably detained through a temporary indisposition. He and Lady Evelyn were immediately escorted to the reception room in the central college building, where had gathered all the ecclesiastical dignitaries and many laymen and ladies of note, chief among whom were His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, His Lordship Bishop Pascal, of Prince Albert, who happened to be on his way to St. Paul, and the newly appointed Prothonotary Apostolic, Monsignor Dugas, rector of the cathedral. There were also present the Rector and Faculty of the College, Fathers Allard, Cahill and Dandurand, O.M.I., Fathers Cherrier, Trudel, Messier and Molurier, Chief Justice Dubuc, Senator Bernier, Mrs. and Miss Bernier, Mr. Cyr, M.P., and Madame Cyr, Mr. Horace Chevrier, M.L.A. and Madame Chevrier, Mayor Turenne, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Russell, Major Ducharme, and Madame Ducharme, Dr. Lambert, Dr. Dubuc and Madame Dubuc, Mr. Theophane and Madame Bertrand, Aldermen Dumouchel and Pelletier, Mr. and