

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF CANADA

## OUR HOME TERRITORY

In conversation with a zealous missionary who had spent many years in the West we learned what the lot of the Bishop is who has to face distances of which the East has little conception, scattered groups of Catholics, no churches, not even chapels, and with all this the rigours of hard winters and storms. This is surely a life of uncertainty and hardship. We spoke in particular of one Bishop known to both of us. "He will have a hard task," said the missionary. "He has not nearly enough priests for his needs and the territory is all missionary. He has scarcely any good parishes. Another Western Bishop is trying to solve some of his missionary difficulties by forming missionary centres at the best posts and working from them. This gave the priests a chance for needed companionship and enables them also to help one another. "But," he added, "this is not always possible. The missionary must often be content to stay out on the prairies alone." We told him of one Bishop coming to us for no less than ten chapels for his diocese. "Yes indeed," added the missionary, "they are needed everywhere." "Is Extension doing great good for the Church out there?" "It is without doubt," concluded our companion, "it is doing splendid work for the Church and is a great help."

This picture could easily be amplified. We had little time to discuss the great needs of our home missions. But the country is growing, we were informed, and in twenty-five years would be a big power in Canadian life; "but," added the missionary, "do not forget that there are many influences in the East inimical, from a Western viewpoint, to the best interest of the country. Happily, we are not among these. Those who help Extension are decided friends, but let us not forget that these influences do not make the lot of the Church any easier. It is only by splendid cooperation that we can hope to succeed. Extension is a big factor in the success of the Church in Canada. Let us never forget our share and join heartily in advancing its general interests. A word to the head office will be welcome, still better let a donation accompany it."

Donations may be addressed to:  
Rev. T. O'Donnell, President  
Catholic Church Extension Society  
67 Bond St., Toronto.

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## A GREAT CONVENTION

From China

China Mission College was represented at the Third General Convention of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade held at Drayton, Ohio, August 18-21, both by a Booth in the Mission Exhibit Room and by Father Fraser, who was one of the speakers. Over six hundred delegates were present from nearly all the Catholic Universities, Colleges and Institutions of Higher Learning of North America.

Father Fraser urged them to help the Missions financially, prayerfully and personally, laying stress on the latter. He told of the president of one of the "Units" of the Crusade in a Catholic College of Canada recently joining a Seminary for foreign missions. "Some exhort you to do this or that for the Missions, to give this or that, but I exhort you to give yourselves. In no better way can you incite the members you have left at home to work for the missions." He was not asking them, he said, to do something he had not done himself, as he had passed fifteen years in China as a missionary and was still working for China in his present position.

He described vividly the enormous population and colossal idolatry of China. "If the Chinese," he said, "were to form into a procession and pass by at the rate of a thousand a minute it would take no less than nine months for them all to pass. What a sad procession that would be! So many souls on the road to perdition! Every day in China 33,000 persons die unbaptized! The country is seething with superstition, dotted with pagan temples and shrines and overrun with pagan priests, soothsayers and diviners. The Dragon, ancestors and false gods of every description are adored. Every day tons of incense are burned in honor of Satan. He described several amazing superstitions practiced; a rock that is adored and has a feast day, a pagan hermit found in a cave who had been there three years praying and fasting, the weird ceremonies of the 'finding of souls,' the people believing that the soul of a delicious person is wandering about and cannot find its way back.

In describing his parish in China, he said it contained three cities and a thousand towns and villages, and

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all he had to help him was one Chinese curate; it was almost entirely pagan when he went there but on leaving it contained six churches filled on Sundays with pious congregations. "I can tell you," he said emphatically, "there is no consolation a man can have on earth greater than to look down on a large congregation and know that he was the means, under God, of bringing them all into the Catholic Church, that without his sacrifice they would still be grovelling in idolatry."

China Mission College, he stated, was open to all nationalities, and actually had at present students of nine different nationalities, some from the United States.

In conclusion he depicted St. Francis Xavier dying on a little island on the coast of China, trying to enter and convert it to the Faith, and pointing out to us by his death the road we should follow. "That same St. Francis once said that he desired to go to Europe and cry out in the Universities, urging the students to become missionaries in the far East, where 'the harvest is great but the laborers few.' What was denied to him, is granted to the speakers at this Convention. Before me are representatives from nearly all the Catholic Universities, Colleges and Institutions of Higher Learning of North America. I beg and entreat you, and through you the members of the Units you represent, to do all in your power for the Missions—financially, prayerfully and personally, by giving yourselves to the Missions."

Because Jesus was acquainted with grief, because He endured torments—to suffer as He suffered is a veritable joy to the soul filled with His holy love.—Abbe. A. Sandream.

## DIED

KEATING.—Died at Hamilton Beach, on Friday, July 29th, 1921, Wm. P. Keating, beloved husband of Sarah Walsh and dearly beloved father of Thomas, Mary Frances, Alice and Ambrose Keating, aged fifty-nine years. Funeral took place from his late residence, 337 York St., to Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

McPHILLIPS.—Joseph J., beloved husband of Blanche and son of the late Patrick and Bridget McPhillips of London, Ontario. Funeral from late residence, 1501 Payne avenue, Cleveland, Wednesday, Sept. 7. Services at St. John's Cathedral Chapel, at 9:30 a.m. Interment at London, Ontario. May his soul rest in peace.

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