

The True Witness

And Catholic Chronicle

The True Witness Printing & Publishing Co., 25 St. Antoine Street, Montreal, Canada.

P. O. Box 1138.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

Canada (city excepted), United States and Newfoundland, \$1.00 City and Foreign, \$1.50

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1906.

FORWARD, QUEBEC!

Four years ago when the citizens of Montreal tendered a complimentary banquet to Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice, the guest of the evening delivered an address that was quite prophetic of the volume of Canadian progress recorded in the interval.

AUSTRALIA AND HOME RULE.

The certainty of a Liberal triumph in the next elections in Great Britain has started a clamorous discussion of the Home Rule issue. The Rosebery Liberals, and the Irish devolutionists as well as the Nationalists are trying to extract from the Liberal leaders an advance declaration of their Irish policy.

THE CATHOLIC PRESS.

Many Bishops have visited Rome within the past year, and to one and all the Supreme Pontiff appears to have found occasion for urging encouragement and support of the Catholic press.

It has been remarked that Pius X. is always highly pleased with the accounts American Bishops are able to render of their subjects. They have long since wakened up to the fact that thorough organization and

vigorous press are the two greatest instruments in their power for good. When the Pope had received all the information necessary regarding the former from one of the prelates mentioned above, he inquired about the condition of the latter. The number of Catholic newspapers, their circulation, their influence, etc., every detail was welcome to him concerning that weapon that is but too often turned against his fold.

CONTROVERSY.

Religious controversy upon occasion is not only justifiable but necessary. At the same time the exercise is seldom indulged in without leaving effects more or less regrettable from the standpoint of public sentiment.

The recent incidents of the interruption of a Salvation Army meeting near this city, the attack made by Baptist evangelizing societies upon the religion of the French-Catholic people, and reports of the Paulist mission to non-Catholics at Sydney have given rise to widespread and naturally varied comment.

The Toronto Globe rebukes the Baptists in excellent terms and declares that if the French-Catholics had the temerity to go into Ontario and cast similar aspersions upon the religion of the majority of the people up there, the thing would not be tolerated for one half-hour. But a correspondent of the Witness of this city takes a different view, and says that Protestants attend Catholic missions determined to behave themselves, whereas Judge Sicotte and Canon Lepailleur instruct Catholics not to go to Protestant meetings at all.

The mission of the Paulist Fathers furnishes no instances parallel either with the Salvation Army incident or the Baptist meetings. Missions to non-Catholics, as conducted by the Paulist Fathers, are confined to the exposition of Catholic doctrine. The missionaries place themselves entirely in the hands of those who attend their meetings, to answer all questions that may be propounded. There is nothing illogical in anyone

attending these meetings who wishes to put himself right in his understanding of his Catholic neighbor's attitude. There is no intention or possibility of offences being given to the most sensitive Protestant who is a seeker after truth at these meetings.

The question therefore resolves itself into this: The mission of the Catholic people is to promote public harmony, whereas the mission of such people as engage themselves in the Baptist proselytizing enterprise is to create discord and division. The distinction is important.

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND AGRICULTURE.

If the course of a lengthy address upon the "Practical Application of Christianity to the Lives of the People," delivered by the Bishop of Ross at the annual conference of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland, the speaker (Dr. Kelly) gave a most interesting account of the progress of the modern agricultural movement in many of the countries of Europe, especially in Belgium. When our present Holy Father, Pius X., was a country parish priest in North Italy, he was an ardent worker in this new field of labor.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Monsignor Howlett, D.D., Rector of Kingsland, has the distinction of being the first Irish priest invited to preach a course of sermons in the Westminster Cathedral. He has accepted the invitation and has chosen as his subject "The Blessed Virgin Mary."

Forty-three Benedictine Nuns were recently expelled from their convent at Mantes, near Paris. Of these eleven are old and feeble. One of them, who is 80 years of age, cried out

that she was being driven from her home when she was on the brink of the tomb.

If a recent Parliamentary paper there is given a list of religious and charitable institutions in Great Britain and Ireland in which laundries are carried on by way of trade or for purposes of gain. There are 280 of these institutions in all, of which some 65 are in Ireland. In 161 cases the authorities of the institutions have accepted inspection in response to the Home Office Circular, or they since have been visited by one or more of the lady inspectors, while the remaining 69 either have not accepted inspection or have not given a definite answer to the Circular.

Too little has been written concerning the Catholic Sporting Congress recently held at the Vatican. Six hundred young athletes, in picturesque costume, with banners flying, and headed by bands, proceeded to the Riding School of the Papal Guards. Above the entrance was an inscription to the following effect: "Here, where the greatest moral power has obtained the most glorious victories, the Italian Catholic youth proves that he who has a pure mind has a healthy body."

Articles attacking Lourdes and those who proclaim and believe in its efficacy as a sacred place have been appearing in the Paris Petite Republique. The writer is M. Jean de Bonnefon, a nominal Catholic, who is occasionally patronized and even befriended by some prelates and priests. His attacks on Lourdes are probably paid for by the Combitists, who were savage because the place could not be closed owing to the opposition of the people of the district, who, of course, benefit by the pilgrimages.

PETITION FOR IRISH HOME RULE.

Australian Parliament Adopt a Motion in Favor After a Heated Debate.

Melbourne, Victoria, Oct. 19.—The Federal House of Representatives today adopted by 31 to 21 votes a motion to petition King Edward to grant home rule to Ireland. This success of the home rulers is attributed in large measure to Mr. William Redmond's recent campaign in Australia. The motion had been hotly debated and the labor party and Liberals supported the home rulers.

There are few happy souls, because there are so few who pray.

QUEBEC AND THE TRANSCONTINENTAL.

Speaking at the banquet to Hon. Mr. Parent in the Chateau Frontenac on the 19th, Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice, said that few subjects in recent times had been more fully discussed than that of Canada and the Canadians. Men of all shades of thought had dwelt upon her resources and her political future. It was eminently fitting that these should be discussed by the descendants of the early discoverers of the country, by those who have given to us the real Canadian Anthem, "O Canada, Mon Pays et Mes Amours."

And this language had reference only to the present conditions resulting from the output from five millions of acres of northwestern lands, while there is to develop the 85,000,000 acres of land in Alberta, all declared suitable for cultivation, together with the 90,000,000 acres in Saskatchewan and the millions in Manitoba as well. Canada has to prepare not for the output of millions of bushels, but of the five hundred millions of bushels. Of what avail will this output be to the farmers, who measure the furrows of the plough by miles, if they cannot put their produce on the market?

It was most fitting that Mayor Parent should have been selected for the chairmanship of the commission to give a new outlet for the grain crop of the Northwest. Perhaps it was not that he should testify to all the qualifications for this important office of him who had been for many years his closest friend. "We entered," he said, "the City Council of Quebec together. He went on and I was put out. We entered the Legis-

lature together. Again he went on, while I was put out. He is not a rhetorician, it is true. He does not make speeches, but he is a man who does things. There is a great future in store for Canada, and in store also for Quebec. Let none of us lose hope. It has been said that hope springs eternal in the human breast. No man is good for anything who gives way in the face of reverses. There is but one royal road to success, and that is marked with the mile-stones of perseverance."

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ANCIENT IRISH SONG OF THANKSGIVING. (Boston Pilot.)

ANCIENT IRISH SONG OF THANKSGIVING.

I offer Thee Every flower that ever grew, Every bird that ever flew, Every wind that ever blew, Good God. Every thunder rolling, Every church bell tolling, Every leaf and sod! (Laudamus te!)

MARRIED. REARDON-WALSH—At St. Anicet, on Oct. 16th, by the Rev. Father Neppve, P.P., Mr. John W. Reardon, of Bombay, N.Y., to Miss Mattie, eldest daughter of Mr. M. C. Walsh, of St. Anicet, Que.

Advertisement for 'His Majesty's Mail' jewelry, featuring a decorative border and text describing the quality and variety of jewelry available.

Advertisement for 'The True Witness' newspaper, including subscription rates and contact information.

Advertisement for 'ITEMS OF INTEREST' featuring various local news items and church events.

Advertisement for 'ST. ANTHONY'S COURT' celebrating its 16th anniversary with a social event.

Advertisement for 'ORDINATIONS AT THE CATHEDRAL' on October 28th and 29th.

Advertisement for 'ANOTHER AMBULANCE HOTEL DIEU' providing medical services.

Advertisement for 'EVENING CLASSES' in various subjects like geometry and wood carving.

Advertisement for 'WILL CELEBRATE HIS 25th ANNIVERSARY' by Rev. Father Auclair.

Advertisement for 'BLESSED A NEW CEMETERY' at Contrecoeur.

Advertisement for 'BEAUTIFUL FLORAL GIFTS' available for various occasions.