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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1916

"OUR MANY EDUCATIONAL FADS AND FANCIES"

Professor Trumbell Ladd, of Yale University, under the above title has is well worth serious consideration: an article criticising the " methods ' of modern teaching. It is, perhaps, only fair to say at the outset that in Canada things have not gone quite so far as they have across the line; but the tendency is the same and what the Professor has to say of American schools has sufficient application to our own to make it well worth our while to give it some consideration.

While he admits that before the training of teachers for their work they were, as a rule, taskmasters who drove their pupils through unwelcome tasks, he holds that this affords absolutely no warrant for present methods which lose the end of education " in devices for making the path to that end an unnaturally pleasant one." Interest in their work is desirable; but many teachers lose sight of everything else. Discipline finds no place in the modern class-room. What university teacher, asks the writer, does not share the wish of a popular teacher that he might be able to handle his men in the classroom with a fraction of the severity of discipline with which they were handled by the coach of the 'Varsity' crew and teams.

" Barring the language employed, why should not those who have in charge the discipline necessary for playing well the difficult game of life have all the authority to enforce work until interest follows the attainment of skill that is freely accorded in the athletic field? But at the present time in this country any genuine and severe discipline in work is to be found, for the most part, only in a few medical schools and a few of the best preparatory

The reversal of the relations between interest and mental discipline is found, Professor Ladd maintains, in every grade of education from the kindergarten to the university, and he brands it as a psychological fallacy.

"Excesses of this kind of make out of six-vear-old make play into educative work is, should invest the universe. And even for the very young, quite a different thing from trying to convert into mere the work of education play. But the child who by his own efforts, stimulated and guided just enough and no more by the teacher, finds out for himself, may experience something of the joy which a great them entirely out of the account." scientist experiences, on making notable discovery."

Professor Ladd, some years ago, made inquiry of the Faculty of Oxford as to the standing of the Rhodes scholars and was informed that they were enterprising, likable fellows, some of them even gifted; but almost without exception they proved to have received in this country no thorough training in the very elements of the subjects in which they wished to specialize, and what was more to their discredit, they resented all attempts to put them under the discipline of the univers-

Could there be a more scathing indictment of the whole educational system than this?

"Who that knows the American public today can doubt that one of the chief causes of our public shame and of fear for the public security is the prevailing lack of discipline our young, and that this lack of discipline pervades the educational institutions, lower and higher, and, as well, the homes of the country?'

"Interest" in the subject of study as a fundamental principle of pedagogy, excludes the discipline, mental and moral, of mastering uninteresting, even disagreeable, subjects.

"How this same psychological fallacy has operated to degrade our educational system by encouraging the fad of exaggerated option, and its result in overcrowded 'snap courses,' there is scarcely need to In both the undergraduate and the graduate courses of our leading universities its baleful influence has made itself powerfully felt."

of modern education:

"To try to secure the results of discipline through exciting the sensation of interest rather than to secure a permanent and intelligent interest by requiring the discipline which must precede and support it, is a fallacy which infects even our prothe schools — especially fessional schools of divinity."

Professor Ladd traces to this defective training the loss of respect for ministers which he points out in plain terms of harsh truth :

"This spirit, encouraged in the school for professional training, is carried over into the pulpits of the land, which, in their futile and not infrequently uncouth efforts to interest their hearers in a sensational way, are robbed of confidence and respect as teachers of religion."

all limited in its application to our American cousins. It retains its full force as applied to Canadians and it

although more subtle, is not deceptive and injurious in its effects upon the culture of the American public. It is the assumption that the improvement of the public morals can be secured by passing laws, offering resolutions in public meetings, spreading information as to the consequences of wrong-doing, while neglecting the cultivation of the conscience of the individual-especially of the young, under the power of definitely moral and religious principles and emotions. That law and learning can make good men and women is not true; but it is the ethical fad and fancy of a large proportion of the American people specially if enough associations and societies are formed, enough clerks employed, and circulars sent out, &c. For everything must bear the aspect of being socialistic, and there must be much talk about 'social service,' and 'social uplift,' and other en-

gaging terms. If we apply the divine text "By their fruits you shall know them ' purely secular education stands condemned: Bassas 3

"Meanwhile our schools and colleges and universities are not turn ing out a proper crop of strong and sturdily upright men and women. The vices of cheating, lying, stealing, and sexual immorality are becoming appallingly frequent among the children in our Public schools. Some of the doctors are advocating eugenics are beginning to consider the passage of laws which, if rigidly enforced. would condemn some of their own number to prison or to sterility. Textbooks are being introduced into the Public schools, the effect of which is as likely to be the excitement of a prurient curiosity as the deterrent of wrong-doing; or the exaggerations of which too often react, when the truth of fact becomes known, to the increase of the very evil they are intended to repress.'

That moral training may go hand in hand with the teaching of even physical science is recognized by the distinguished educator whom we are quoting:

physical and chemical sciences which intellectual roues tends to deepen the reverence and shallowness and frivolity. But particularly detrimental to th we are now considering is that form of treating the sciences of economics sociology, and history which mini-

Professor Ladd concludes with insisting on moral training as the great

desideratum of education: "Our need is also for a discipline — however kindly and sympathetic—over the children and outh of the nation; and, above all, return to the task of breeding individual men and women whose value can be estimated on the basis of their moral character and their moral conduct in the life of citizen and member of society. This alone will realize the end of a truly 'practical'

It is not only interesting but highly useful to consider how intimately this thoughtful and observant educationist confirms every contention of the Catholic Church in the matter of education. Except, perhaps, in the recognition of the patent fact that Religion is the sole and indispensable basis of morality. He makes very plain, also, that Catholic education which stops at the primary or even the secondary school is fatally defective.

HYPHENS

Hyphens are really useful little things even for indicating the racial origin of citizens of that welter of nationalities which we call America. answer the call of duty and sacrifice. The 69th is not hyphenated Scotch-Irish either.

that time it was a true indictment. Catholics—and Protestants also— Separate schools over Public schools. to abolish this erstwhile supreme test of efficiency.

Ottawa, Toronto and Hamilton The following paragraph is not at for "examination." The rest of the province is a bit shy of the new substitute for the old Entrance.

Of all the reasons for the change, that of the awful strain to which "There is another fallacy which, this little written examination subjects the pupils is the silliest.

forget at this time of the year the nerve-racking nature of the Entrance examination, which when the Public schools shamed the Separate schools was the one adequate test of efficiency. Now when the tables are costly. turned it becomes a thing to be abolished in the name of humanity.

is a sample brick :

" This is the time when some tens of thousands of Canadian children are passing through a clargely unnecessary, and in many cases a most trying, ordeal in the annual or semi-annual examinations in Public and High schools. There is small need of nature of the ordeal and the preparation immediately preceding them, as ost parents have in their own children only too much evidence of the nerve strain which the examinations

Now what is that nerve-racking, dangerous and unnecessary ordeal? Simply a few straightforward

questions on the work of the school which are to be answered in writing. defects and limitations; but no better give the child an impetus in the substitute has been discovered as a performance of his daily tasks that test of knowledge from the time a others know not of. with a vengeance. Our legislatures pupil has learned to think and write until he leaves the university or enters on his professional career.

school population.

CAN'T STAND COMPETITION

One often wonders why there is such bitter opposition to the charitable and educational institutions of "There is a way of teaching the the Church. As they relieve the State of much financial responsibility and as Catholics are well satisfied with them, one would naturally there is another way which leads to expect that the authorities would be glad to see them prosper. As a matter of fact, however, they are being continually discriminated against, hampered by adverse legismizes the moral forces or leaves lation, and falsely represented by unfriendly inspectors. The Catholic Charities of New York, that have been much in the limelight of late, offer an illustration of this. Mgr. Dunn declares that it is an open secret, that at the back of the attack upon the New York institutions, is a charity trust, supported by the Standard Oil, the Rockfeller Institute, and the Sage Foundation, that has for its object the secularization of all charitable institutions, the divorcing of them altogether from religion. Is it because they are not doing good work that this movement is set on foot? By no means. It is because they are doing too good work. It is because their efficiency has made the State institutions appear in a less favorable light in self-sacrifice. They are the manimight be led to examine the beauty of their source.

Cardinal Newman, with his wonder-

He thus indicates the radical defect THE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION the genuine. So it is with religion. throughout the whole English-speakthe several thousand Waldensians, tactics. The enemy are getting world. And everywhere these the boasted conquests of Methodism We must be getting old. At any The living Church is the test and the ing world. And everywhere these the boasted conquests of Methodism rate we have a very distinct remem. confutation of all false churches; devoted men have carried with them with its prodigious expenditure of brance of the time when our leading therefore get rid of her at all hazards; the same noble ideals, always display- American dollars melts into the thindailies led the chorus of condemna- tread her down, gag her, dress her as a ling the same whole-hearted devotion tion of Separate schools because fellow, starve her, bruise her features. to duty, united with "sweet speech they failed to hold up their end in By no manner of means give her fair and stainless ways." the Entrance examination. And at play; you dare not." How significant are these words, viewed in the But for a long time, a whole lot of light of present occurrences. It is true that in this country, our charithave been so accustomed to the able institutions are, for the most rather monotonous superiority of part, justly dealt with by the State; though they are subjected to many as evidenced by these same Entrance | petty annoyances, through the bigotry examinations. So that we are not of local officials. The same can not very much surprised at the agitation be said of our educational institutions. They have to withstand the attacks of wickedness in high places. It is not necessary for our purpose to have substituted "recommendation" be more explicit on this point. Without attributing to the opponents of our Catholic schools any direct animosity to religion itself such as we have evidence of in other countries, we find sufficient reason for their opposition in the uniform high standing taken by our pupils at the Nevertheless we are not allowed to examinations. Though our schools in most places are, to a great extent, dependent upon the voluntary aid of our Catholic people, they measure up in results with those whose educa-

> should be the case. Leaving out of Thus the Protestant Bishop of This from the Christian Guardian the question any comparison as to devotion to duty on the part of teachers, the Catholic child, other things being equal, should be more lic Church," he said, "is making these proficient in acquiring even secular reasons for this. First of all, he is easily done by multiplying teachers emphasizing the trying fortified by the Sacraments. The without any real cost, as they live in the mind to the things of eternity, to | Protestant children. . . . If the strengthen the will against evil and Protestant farmer, or laborer, or man they have a reflex action upon the educated for any of those positions the exuberance of spiritual joy that them to the Christian Brothers' Written examinations have their comes from a fervent Communion, Schools."

tional machinery is much more

Then again the Catholic child or Ireland, but that in no way nullifies or youth sees the different departments diminishes the value of his testimony of the territory of Bukowina as the of knowledge in their right perspectas to a matter of fact. Nor does he cutting of the Austrian railway com-Whatever other reasons there may tive. His faith has given him a stand alone in this regard. Another be-and there are serious teachers bird's eye view of the whole range of Protestant clergyman, the Rev. Dr. who hold that they exist— being, from God in Heaven down to Tristram, at a Conference in Derry, the written Entrance should not the smallest plant that grows, yea gave voice to similar testimony. Exbe abolished for the sake of a few down to the grain of sand on the sea- pressing regret that Protestants in neurotic exceptions amongst the shore. If a student were to under- Ireland had no organization at all take a special study of one of the analogous to the great Catholic psalms of David, without having teaching Orders, he added: "The beforehand acquired any knowledge example set us by a body of men people, mostly agriculturists. They of the history of the Bible or of the whose lives are spent with self-denymeaning of inspiration, he would ing devotion to the young has an certainly be at a disadvantage, if immense moral and spiritual effect competing with one who knew the on most minds. Take, for example, Hungary that Roumania had expected place of the psalms in the economy the Schools of the Christian of the Revealed Word, and who had Brothers. In many of them we have a comprehensive though rudimen- a perfect solution of the question of the doubtful part of the war to obtain tary knowledge of the entire Scrip- co-ordination. The splendid results much consi tures. In like manner the Catholic which these schools, notably in phant Russia. boy or girl having a more or less Dublin and Cork, have achieved adequate conception of the relative affords ample justification of the value of each subject and of its wisdom and foresight with which it relationship to the whole of acquired | has been designed." knowledge, is in a position to become more proficient in that subject than the one whose outlook upon life is

> more confused and restricted. THE GLEANER.

NOTES AND COMMENTS Irish question following upon the visit to Dublin and other parts of Christian Brothers have had in the Protestant minds. moral and intellectual regeneration of the nation since the sun of freedom began first to smile upon it-and for many decades before.

It is almost a century now since | ially the Methodists-as to the sucthe public eye. Back of the former the opening of the first Christian cess of their so-called missions in is the Catholic Church with her Brothers' School in Cork, since when that country the figures are very means of grace and her ideals of it has had an unbroken record of progress in primary, secondary and the whole kingdom is 35,600,000, in festations of her supernatural life technical education. For a long round figures. Of these 80,000 are and vigor. Hence they must be time it labored under the restrictions entered as "foreigners," scattered blackened and disfigured, lest men of hostile legislation, inspired by for the most part over the three what seemed to be an absolutely northern provinces, Piedmont, Lomhopeless spirit of religious bigotry, bardy, and Liguria. Of the 35,600,000 but within the past quarter century ful insight into human nature and these restrictions being largely themselves to be Catholics, while almost prophetic vision of the future, removed—the Brothers have demonpenned these remarkable words in strated to reluctant observers that children down as "atheists," and his essay on "The Protestant View of | the very first places in these grades In another column we reproduce the Catholic Church:" "This," said he, belong to them by right of honest classification as to religious belief. "is the weak point of Protestantism conquest. From Cork the work article which tells of the hyphenated in this country. It is jealous of extended to Dublin, then to other unaccounted for in the tables we Irish-American 69th Regiment being being questioned; it resents arguparts of Ireland, and finally to the have seen, and these are probably the first national guard unit to ment; it flies to State protection; it continents beyond seas, until to-day mostly Jews. Protestantism throughis afraid of the sun; it for the mustard seed of the Cork establout the whole country can make no is afraid of the sun; it for-bids competition. You detect the lishment has grown into that mighty better showing than 123,000, "includ-the Souville lines will be followed by lishment has grown who have been in counterfeit coin by ringing it with tree which extends its branches ing the foreigners," and deducting

As To the practical results of the Christian Brothers work in Ireland we are reminded that between 1847 and 1877—the most trying years out of 1,445 Exhibitions 1,145 were carried off by their pupils; that in Limerick within recent years their pupils carried off the first Exhibitions in the Experimental Science Course (Intermediate); and that out of 339 pupils who obtained prize Exhibitions in Paris, in International competition, 242 belonged to the Christian Brothers. We have had the same tangible demonstration of thoroughness on this Continent, where, dating from the World's Fair at Chicago, in 1893, the Brothers have on every occasion borne off more than their share of honors and awards.

IT IS no occasion for wonder therefore, that in the presence of so continuous a demonstration of efficiency even prejudice has in Ireland, as beyond it, doffed its hat to the Nor is it surprising that this Brothers of the Christian Schools. Killaloe lately paid this tribute (with somewhat of a grudge, it is true, but still he did it): "The Roman Cathomonastic institutions to be most knowledge than one that has not the successful teachers of primary and faith. There are at least two good secondary education. This was very primary effect of the sacraments, it communities. They are giving cheap is true, is to remove sin, to enlighten education, yes, a free education to to increase sanctifying grace. But of business wants to have his son whole nature of the child. The which people of the middle class happy, joyful, care free spirit, that is desire for their children, they have witz a week ago and has been fleeing begotten of freedom from sin, and nothing in the world to do but send

this a menace to Protestantism in

THESE TESTIMONIES to the efficiency of the Catholic system of harmonious them, continued to pour a fire of spiritual and intellectual training, unprecedented violence and to the ineptitude of the opposite system are worth taking notice of and of preserving. They are as applicable to Canada as to IN THE renewed discussion of the Ireland, and with the ever-present menace of the Godless system which recent uprising, and PremierAsquith's a certain element would force upon us if it could, we cannot be too often Ireland, attention has been drawn reminded of the impression made by once more to the notable share the Catholic devotion upon thoughtful

> in Italy have just been given to the world, and in view of the oft-repeated boast of American Protestants-especinstructive. The total population of total population 33,000,000 declared 874,000 wrote themselves and their another 654,000 refused to give any This leaves a little over one million

nest kind of thin air. In Rome, "right under the walls of the Vatican," as they proudly proclaim, they are 'storming the very heart of Romanism," but it is quite evident that their "converts" are confined to the handful of undesirables whose faith (such as it is) is exchangeable always for food, or clothing, or a little handy change.

THE RESULT of this Census seems to indicate that the heart of Italy is sound. The 874,000 who entered themselves as "atheists" are to be found principally in a few of the northern cities: in Bologna (Emilia,) Florence (Tuscany,) Milan (Lombardy,) Turin (Piedmont,) and Genoa (Liguria.) These are the cities in which Freemasonry and Socialism centre, and this furnishes one more proof, if any were needed, that both are entirely incompatible with Christian faith. On this continent, Socialists, in an insidious endeavor to make converts, have attempted to prove themselves as not hostile to Christianity, but in Italy they do not deem it politic to shelter under any such pretence. There, as elsewhere in Europe, they are frankly Atheists, and stop at no extreme to insult and vilify the only Christian organization which stands in their way. And while we may lament the havoc they have wrought in some sections, and the numerous weak individuals they have led astray, it must at least be counted a gain that they do not take shelter, as in this country, behind pretensions of religion.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

The conquest of Bukowina by the Russians proceeds without serious hindrance from the demoralized Aus trian army which evacuated Czernoever since. Petrograd reports the occupation of Viznitz, just across the Bialy River from Kuty, and of several villages west and south of Radautz, the occupation of which was reported THE BISHOP, it may be, saw in all yesterday. The general direction of the Russian advance is still west, and it becomes apparent that the object is not so much the occupation munications in the Carpathians. There are but two lines of railway

Galicia across the Carpathians. Bukowina, the occupation of which almost completed, is not much bigger than some of Ontario's counties, having an area of but 4,000 square miles. It supports, however, on its flat lands no less than 814,000 are chiefly of Roumanian race, and are indifferent to the change of masters. Bukowina and Transylvania were the portions of Austriaas the price for her support of the cause of the Allies, but Roumania has been on the fence too long during | two thousand present. ration from a trium-

Verdun was in greater peril vesterday than at any time since the siege began on February 21. The Germans, who on Thursday night com menced to bombard the French posi tions upon the prolongation of the Douaumont and Vaux ridges and in the wooded ravine lying between French works throughout the night. In the early morning, bringing up great bodies of infantry, the enemy attempted to storm the French lines along a front of over 5,000 yards between Hill 321 and the Damloup battery. The first assaults were beaten back, but the midnight Paris report states that "attacks with heavy effectives followed each other with extreme stubbornness, notwithstanding the enormous losses which our curtain of fire and machine guns entailed on the enemy. Between Hill 321 and Hill 320 the THE RESULTS of the Census of 1911 first line trenches and the Thiauattack which had reached as far as the village of Fleury was repulsed by counter-attack Attacks directed on the woods of Vaux, Chapitre, Fumin and Chenois and on the Damloup battery were broken by our

fire and completely repulsed. In this furious assault both the the French Republic. Germans and the French must have suffered serious losses. The French counter-attack an absolute which is less than half a mile from Fort Souville, they would have had a Verdun's defences. Had they broken | can re-establish itself. through along the valley between Souville and Froideterre Forts they would still have had to face the fire from the French positions on the Hill of Belleville, but they would have turned the second line of the appointed in obtaining a seat in defence and rendered the continued occupation of Pepper Hill impossible.

It is not unlikely that yesterday's that his particular group will emerge a change in the French defensive sympathy with the Sinn Fein move-

June 24.

T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

TORY MINISTERS MAKING TROUBLE

IRISH FACTIONISTS PLAYING THE STORY GAME - " THE WHOLESALE AND INSANE ERA OF REPRESSION"-POLITICAL INSTINCT OF THE IRISH ESSENTIALLY SANE

Special Cable to the CATHOLIC RECORD

(Copyright 1916, Central News) London, June 24.—As many times before the Irish problem changes with cinema variety and rapidity Up to the beginning of this week all the difficulties of the Lloyd George settlement were concentrated ? in Ireland, but this week the scene suddenly changed to Downing street For some days a vehement struggle has been going on between Mr. Lloyd George and some of his Tory colleagues, the latter seeking to disavow the terms proposed by Mr. Lloyd George. Necessarily any such disavowal would involve Mr. Lloyd George's immediate resignation, while on the other hand the resigna-George's tion of some Tory members of the cabinet also is possible.

This transformation from appar ently complete English and minister ial unanimity in favour of a settle ment is due to the long delay in the manifesta negotiations, to the tions of continual unrest in Ireland. and to the fierce, unscrupulous cam of certain factionist organs in Ireland against a settlement, to the revival thus of the hope that. Home Rule may be killed after all. But even on this point there is no firm cohesion among tory ministers. Some are backing up Mr. Lloyd George as the representative of the Cabinet. The final arbiter of the action of the Tory ministers is Sir Edward Carson who, if he sticks firmly to his position, can force them into acceptance or deprive them of anything like large support among the English Tories.

Thus we may have a curious combination of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon, Mr. Devlin, Sir Edward Carson, Mr. Craig, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George in favour of a settlement against both the English and irreconcilables of the Irish faction

Meantime in Ireland the tide has shown many signs of turning. While bitter resentment against militarist rule and executions still makes the country restless, the sound sense of the majority sees through the Independent's dishonest campaign to refuse liberty and thereby perpetuate militarism, and is rallying to Mr. Redmond and the Irish connecting Hungary with Eastern Mr. Devlin has been the chief agent in producing this turn in the tide, facing all concentrated enemies of the party and a settlement with a series of brilliant, courageous speeches. A meeting of six hundred Hibernians in Dublin, most of them against him when he started, gave him triumphant acclamations at the end. A similar scene occurred at a crowded meeting in Belfast where eighteen priests were on the plat form. One of the most respected priests proposed a resolution accepting the settlement and when the vote came not twenty protests out of mond, Mr. Dillon and every member sh party are Mr. Devlin and all are resolved to stand or fall by the settlement.

There never was a moment in the history of Ireland when it was so difficult to form anything like accurate or confident survey of her psychology. Revolutions, like war or an earthquake, produce such upconditions heavals from ordinary that it is inevitable that the ordinary outlines of even the most familia landscape should become blurred if not obliterated. Up to about a year ago there was no firmer political fabric in the world than the Irish Party It had justified its existence for fort years by producing a more wide spread and more beneficent revolution in conditions than has ever occurred in so short a country or any time. It had behind it the backing of nine-tenths of the intelligent Nationalists of Ireland Mr. Redmond was in powerful a position as Parnell before his downfall, and had more than Germans succeeded in carrying our justified his position by his states manship, courage and mont work. A powerful German Then came the various factors that eventuated in the rebellion; and from the period when the Sinn Fein movement became powerful and menacing, the situation, of course, was transformed. I have written, I should say, hundreds of times that the Irish Parliamentary Party is like normal times nine-tenths of the sane men of the country, just as the French Republic has, but, also, like able to hold the village of Fleury, not combination of untold circum stances might shake it strong vantage point from which to begin an attack on the inner line of and now let us see how far the fabric and now let us see how far the fabric

In the first place, the Sinn Fein movement, like every other move-ment of revolt in Ireland, gathered to itself all the discontented elements in the country. The politician, dis Parliament; the factionist,