

MAY 17, 1919

A prisoner in a dug-out on the field of battle during the long hours which ensued, Cyril Bethune fought a more desperate battle even than the one raging in his soul.

"Sergeant!" he said at last, turning to the man near him, and doing the one thing he now could, "I'm out of place here. You're all brave men, but I—I've been a coward!"

"That's a plucky thing to say sir," the man rejoined, with quick generosity, "but never fear—you'll get another chance yet."

And even as he spoke, the distant roar grew nearer, and nearer—and suddenly above them, like a bursting dam, the enemy rolled back.

Furiously bombing trenches and dug-outs, the British infantry pressed hard on their heels—and then, just as a warning cheer broke from the group of prisoners, a grenade fell full in their midst.

Like lightning as it touched ground, Cyril Bethune leapt upon it with both feet. And so it was that when at last the stretcher-bearers arrived to do their work they found that for one man among that little company they had arrived too late.

"Sergeant!" he had gasped with breathless voice as the man knelt speechless beside him, "write home for my first chance. . . I forgot! But tell them I got another, and that then . . . I did his bit!"—Thyra Creyke in Rosary Magazine.

IS FRANCE CATHOLIC?

The Peace Conference in Paris has a dark side as well as a bright side. The journalists who are here differ radically in their appraisement of the values of light and shade.

On the other hand, the discovery of France itself has been a source of never-failing delight. There might be some impatience saved if the Conference were held in Holland, say, but Paris is worth a delay in the mails.

In Catholic circles, for example, our Paris friends are delightfully introspective. They recognize that there may be church interests in other parts of the world, but all fields, however distant, are looked at through French glasses.

After the Armistice [said an experienced journalist, identified with the most conservative school of Catholic thought], there was a *Te Deum* service at Notre Dame.

"There are many districts in France where the people are almost wholly Catholic. When an election comes along, one would expect a Catholic to be elected.

way of temptation, for who knows when an unlooked for turn of the wheel of fortune might tempt them overmuch? Thus it comes about that in an electoral division where there are but a dozen non-Catholic families, a non-Catholic is sent to Paris.

In this, and in its inconvenient consequences, the clergy are to some extent the victims of circumstances not of their own making.

And could it be otherwise? This Republic is maintained upon the foundations upon which Napoleon based his Empire—a highly centralized police power.

No member of the group will be allowed to extend unduly the area of his own influence, but if a few of the group combine their increased activity will be tolerated.

On the other hand, the ability of the clergy to adapt themselves to the general conditions is limited by tradition.

"Odd as you may think of it [commented a Catholic who knows his France from end to end], we have here no episcopacy. Oh, yes, we have Bishops, and some few who are very able Bishops, but their ability to act together in any large way is restricted by tradition.

Tradition, also, it would seem, circumscribes the influence of the priest. He knows and everybody knows, that the lay school has been chosen as the fighting ground against religion.

To another serious student I put the question, so often asked by American Catholics: "Why it is that with so many Catholics in France the Government is continuously composed of anti-Catholics?"

That there are many districts in France where the people are almost wholly Catholic. When an election comes along, one would expect a Catholic to be elected.

cause the Church to be regarded very differently by great masses of the French people, whose palpitating life seems at present to be almost hopelessly beyond the reach of the Church of its moral teaching, and of its social canons.

From which it would seem to follow that if the Republic is a survival of the Empire, tied down in leadership to a safe mediocrity, it carries also a very definite, if a somewhat embarrassing, legacy from royalist times.

French Catholics have all these factors in mind when they answer the question which, coming from a stranger, interests them the most—"Is France Catholic?"

It is a tragedy the full horrors of which are not appreciated who do not read between the lines of human history. Religion alone has civilized man.

It is Christianity in what is called Christian civilization, which has made that civilization to be a dominant factor in the world's regeneration.

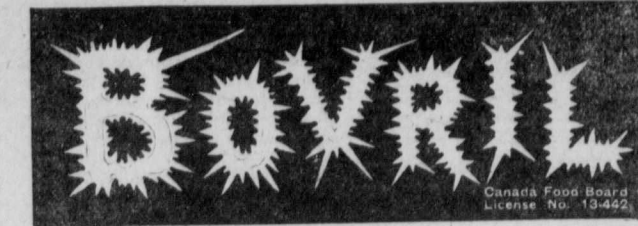
No progress will be lasting that seeks to build upon other foundation than the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Protestantism is beginning to be conscious of the wrong of 'dividing the Body of Christ.'

It is the Church of God against the world, the flesh, and the devil. We can have no doubt of the ultimate victory, but what will be the price?

It is the Church of God against the world, the flesh, and the devil. We can have no doubt of the ultimate victory, but what will be the price?

It is the Church of God against the world, the flesh, and the devil. We can have no doubt of the ultimate victory, but what will be the price?



THE MONTH OF MARY

It was at the beginning of the last century that this devotion of the Month of Mary sprang up in the Catholic Church; and the circumstances of its origin are most wonderful.

It ought to be evident that it is a matter of supreme importance what men think. The popular dogma that it does not matter what a man thinks is utterly exploded.

It is a tragedy the full horrors of which are not appreciated who do not read between the lines of human history. Religion alone has civilized man.

It is Christianity in what is called Christian civilization, which has made that civilization to be a dominant factor in the world's regeneration.

No progress will be lasting that seeks to build upon other foundation than the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Protestantism is beginning to be conscious of the wrong of 'dividing the Body of Christ.'

It is the Church of God against the world, the flesh, and the devil. We can have no doubt of the ultimate victory, but what will be the price?

It is the Church of God against the world, the flesh, and the devil. We can have no doubt of the ultimate victory, but what will be the price?

Ah! if we had the eyes of angels seeing our Lord Jesus Christ present on the altar and looking at us, how we should love Him!

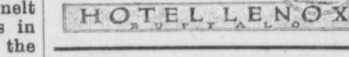
Free Guide of Buffalo and Niagara Falls

An illustrated guide to points of interest in and around Buffalo and Niagara Falls. Free on request.

When in Buffalo stop at the Hotel Lenox—Buffalo's ideal hotel for tourists.

On Empire Tours. Road map and running directions free.

C. A. MINER Managing Director North St. at Delaware Avenue Buffalo, N. Y.



ALAMAC HOTEL advertisement with details about location and amenities.

THE King Edward Hotel advertisement with details about dining and services.

Grand Atlantic Atlantic City, N. J. advertisement with details about the resort.

HOTEL TULLER advertisement with details about location and services.

STANDARD LIBRARY

NEW JUVENILES

45c. Each. Postpaid

- List of books for sale including 'As True as Gold', 'A Summer at Woodville', 'An Every-Day Girl', etc.