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LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 31, 1921

To all our readers and friends we time-honored greeting, a happy desire to do unto others as they and anxieties of his office were them all out of the window. New Year.

INDEPENDENCE AND INTERDEPENDENCE

Seven years ago Professor Eoin MacNeil, in an article in the English nations. Review, emphasized the point of view that national independence is necessarily limited by the fact of the interdependence of nations. Briefly, he advocated the recognition of the equal national status of Great Britain and Ireland before adjusting that relationship between the two nations in the manner that their acknowledged interdependence made necessary or desirable.

We recall the expressions of surprise and pleasure that such an article should not only be given space but welcome by an English publication. Much water has flowed under the bridges since then ; that proposed solution of the Irish problem which seemed so audacious, so improbable seven years ago is, in all essentials, realized by the treaty just concluded between Great Britain and Ireland.

Nor does this mean the definite and final measure of Irish national freedom. Her status is that of Canada ; and the writer, more years ago than he cares to specify, remembers hearing Edward Blake advocate the right of Canada to make her own commercial treaties. He was as a voice crying in the wilderness. Emphatic and all but unanimous was the condemnation of this audacious, if not seditious, demand Treaty-making, it was declared, was the exclusive prerogative of sovereign states. Mr. Blake's demand meant the absolute severance of Canada from the Empire ; the demand for the absoand acting in his name. lutely independent and sovereign status of Canada amongst the nations of the world.

But now Canada without a "by

everything. Nowhere an attempt yet he is of transcendent importance ful practice. to deal with an issue solely from the as the symbol of that unity which point of view of the interest of the obtains amongst the self governing world as a whole, or even of that of nations of the Commonwealth. the masses here represented-only We cannot believe that any such a nationally inspired desire to ex- gross misconception of the Dominaccompany the order. Where Catholic accompany the order. Where Catholic accompany the order. Where Catholic accompany the order. Where Catholic arrowly selfish point of view and people or their representatives into the more it is borne in upon them belittle the pleasures to which we amine every proposal from the ion status will mislead the Irish try to be all sufficient to themselves, ideal now is to be blase, and to to squeeze out of it all possible the criminal folly of refusing to that there is something amiss with give so much of our time and our advantage by interpretation or bar- ratify the treaty. gaining. This is the reply to Mr. Harding's appeal to the nations

here represented to do jointly what he said they could not do individualwrong about it, but I look upon this "Foch is a Protestant." whole scene here in Washington as

manifest interdependence of the Jesuit College of St. Clement's at and lick 'lasses all day long." And would be done by."

that spirit Professor MacNeil's ideal will be that of all civilized graphy of the great general :

The independent self-governing nations within the British Commonwealth point the way of salvation to the nations of the world.

them with an ardor for military art The accession of Ireland to this league of nations makes it a thousand-fold more effective as an actual achievement to be studied. an example to be followed.

Hitherto the condition of Ireland was a running sore on the face of the British Commonwealth. The professions of democracy, equality military skill. . . and justice were but so much cynical hypocrisy in the ears of the

world so long as Ireland gave the lie direct to such professions. That Ireland herself should be slow the general staffs of our army, fol- matter of course, all sources of to see the new status in this light. should be suspicious and distrustful, is not only not surprising but the beginning of the War, occupied most natural. That Irishmenshould high positions of command, one may have a repugnance to taking an oath estimate as he can the profound of allegiance to the King was

inevitable. It was in the name of one grand spirit.'' the King that Irish boys were "Then [in 1901] came the antibeaten, tortured and murdered. It was in the name of the King that clerical wave in French politics, Irish villages, towns and cities were and on its crest a new commandshot up, sacked and burned, ant to the School of War-a man Nothing done by the "Huns" or elevated by the anti-clericals and attributed to them, nothing done eager to keep his elevation by

by the black hundreds of the Czar, pleasing those who put him there. "Foch adheres devoutly to the nothing done in their excesses by the Bolsheviki in their wild reaction religious practices in which he was against the friends of Czarist reared, and one of his brothers belongs to the Jesuit order."

terrorism, exceeded in ferocity and savagery the Black and Tannism of Foch then was "dumped" at the Crown forces in Ireland while Laon as lieutenant-colonel of the wearing the uniform of the King 29th artillery. And his biographer continues: "Ferdinand Foch, with his brilliant knowledge and high

But when the English Sinn Feiner, Erskine Childers, in the words ideals of soldiering was now past quoted below plays on this natural fifty and not yet a colonel." feeling of the Irish people it is hard-to believe in his sincerity: beard the anti-clericals, surmounted one might prove to his own satis- faceable recollections of the kindly, others—in short, a very companion-"The Constitution of Ireland, he the hitherto insuperable obstacle faction that they could not possibly unassuming preceptor, who knew able, alert, and helpful fellow. said, was going to depend on an Act of the British Parliament. The of Foch's religion and restored him have been happy. Yet it is a so well how to temper discipline Such a person every normal boy at of the British Farliament. The King could refuse to consent to incomparably better fitted than the my age are personal witnesses, there were more hearty laughs to where their welfare was concerned. The by supplying activities that assist General, in telephonic communica-The story is thus told : The Constitution of Ireland will

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Conference this week. . . The of his Canadian ministers. He is in a is and always was Catholic by birth, without Him ; and we don't find it, County, Dr. Spetz had every title standing. A man who knows its real spirit of nationality overshadowed very real sense but a figure-head; and by education, and by constant faith- and that's all. Yes, laughter is lost. To laugh

By THE OBSERVER

not getting the results they ex-

LOST LAUGHTER The more that men and women as inexperienced; green; and the their calculations, and that they are money.

FOCH IS A CATHOLIC

The Montreal Star, Friday, majority of men and women feel Nature's gift to us, as a way of December the 9th, in answer to a perfectly certain, it is that they Perhaps I am all correspondent, G. S., states tersely, could make themselves happy if generally, we do not laugh.

they could only choose and possess The great Marshal of France is a the things which, in their opinion, one of the dying flurries of the old Catholic of course. He was a devout would give them happiness. Such this age, its ways, and its manners : Catholic in his boyhood when he opinions, of course, vary greatly. We have lost laughter. The old system is doomed ; a way lived in the immediate neighborhood The little negro boy though the would must be found to reconcile desirable of the famous grotto of Lourdes. like to be a governor, so that he national independence with the He was educated in his youth in the might "go down on a 'lasses wharf,

pected.

nations. The "little diplomats so Metz. He is and always was a there is a story of a man in a steel religious education, the Rev. Dr. cursed with their nationality" must pious Catholic whose devotion to mill whose idea of having a million give place, as Mr. Villard suggests, the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar dollars was. to set a dozen alarm the provostship of Trinity College, to "common-sense men actuated by never suffered intermission even clocks about his bed, and when they wish, in every good sense of the the ordinary moralities and the during the War. When the burdens rang at six in the morning to throw institution of learning in the Dom-

greatest the Commander-in-Chief of I suppose if the much-spoken-of The restoration of the Christian the allied armies, when at all pos- "man-in-the-street" were asked meet these requirements. The spirit to international relations is sible, spent daily an hour on his whether he would be happy if he great peril of the world today was the sole hope of civilization. In knees before his Eucharistic Lord. were made King of England, he the development of knowledge We quote a passage from a bio- would at least consider the proposal without religion, a godless intellect favorably : though there is record uality."

"Foch made the men who sa; of an Italian who was being exunder him [in the School of War] amined on the A. B. C's of the love their work for the work's sake American Constitution, and was and not for its rewards. He fired asked ; "Could you be President of the United States ;" who excused which made them feel that in all the himself : "No, please, ain't gotta world there is nothing so fascinating, da time." Still, I think most men so worth while, as knowing how to -such is human vanity-would defend one's country. . . It was hesitate to refuse the Crown.

tremendously, incalculably import- Yet, King Edward VII., it is said. ant for France and for all of us was unable to do without entertainthat Ferdinand Foch was eager and ing companions for even a short able to impart this enthusiasm for time ; and his great dread was being unentertained or bored. He was "In five years, 1895-1901 this work king ; had no very onerous duties was interrupted by politics in 1901), to worry about; had had a long many hundreds of officers, as life of considerate attention from Rene Puaux says, 'the very elite of all those about him ; and had, as a

lowed his teaching and were imbued entertainment at his command ; with it; and as practically all, at yet, he was in continual danger of being bored.

Many wealthy people, especially when they are idle as well as rich. and far-reaching influence of this have had a similar experience. Pleasure flees when pursued too eagerly: and comes to those who cannot, and do not, engage in such pursuit.

> Have you ever noticed city tourists in the country? They enjoy themselves after a fashion; but look at the fresh-faced, smiling, faces of the country people; and then look again at the city-worn face. Which class contains the which was never so rife as now. most happy people?

Laughter is a lost art; if not an art, what you like; it is lost any- C. R., is a distinct loss to the Cath- perhaps, more frequently employed virility and man in ess. These values how. I am just old enough to olic educational forces of Ontario. in connection with military manoeu- should be conserved. But in order begin to appreciate the people of As a member of the staff of St. vres and war operations, has peace- to preserve them from the objectable the last generation, now dead; Jerome's College, Kitchener, and for ful uses. Not improperly, we think feature of militarism they must be their characteristics, their habits, a time its President, he was a of a scout as one disciplined to hard dominated by right purpose and and their philosophy. Measured by familiar figure to two generations work-watchful, self-reliant, ob- leadership. That these values standards of today, they had no Later on, a man strong enough to fun at all; and, in terms of today, away from their Alma Mater inef- and pleasant in his dealings with to the place for which he was positive fact; and I and all men of with forbearance, and who never his best wants to be, and it is the be heard in an hour when a dozen He lived to see the college grow of those old-timers met of an even- from very humble beginnings to the "On June 20, 1907, he was made ing than can be heard now in a proud position it now occupies, and brigadier-general and passed to the whole evening in the biggest throughout his entire connection arises from the use of the uniform. general staff of the French army vaudeville theatre in the land. with it the college had no more What made them laugh? Happi- loyal or more devoted son.

to be its historian. R. I P.

THE OUTBREAK of a species of heartily is almost impossible to the religious frenzy which press desworn and tired mind of pleasurepatches of the past few days dechasers ; and anyhow they wouldn't scribe as being rampant among a if they could. It would mark them section of the fishing population of Northern Scotland is one of those incidents which seem inseparable from the Protestant theory of religion under given circumstances, but from which Scottish Presbyterian-Does our surfeit of pleasureism has been pretty well exempt seeking content us? If so, why since the fanatical Covenanting out-If there is one thing of which the don't we laugh? Laughter is breaks of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The present outexpressing joy. . And, speaking break has indeed, if we may depend upon the word of the despatch And that is one of the most curwriters, a strong flavor of the eightious and cogent facts concerning eenth century, and may be in the nature of a long deferred relapse of the fanaticism of that period. It is emotionalism without a guide

NOTES AND COMMENTS or director run wild, and it need excite no surprise that many ill-SPEAKING ON the subject of balanced minds have, as reported, given way under the strain. If the Seager, who has just succeeded to very father and " patron saint ' Presbyterianism in Scotland could Toronto, the leading Anglican have precipitated, as he did, such an outbreak as left his country a inion said: "No education could spiritual desert, it need not occabe true education unless it aimed to sion surprise that its reverberations should from time to time be heard still.



COMMENTING ON which weighty BOY SCOUTS AND MILITARISM words the Presbyterian editor of the By many, Boy Scouts are looked 'Outlook of the Church" column in upon as soldiers in the making. If the Globe, has this to say . "All by making soldiers is meant traintrue educators are coming to see this ing boys for intelligent public more and more. To train the body service, cultivating character, selfalone will only make man a fine reliance, mutual helpfulness, and junior militia nor its adjunct. The animal. To instruct the mind only the capacity to achieve success in will make him merely an encyclo- the field of chosen endeavour, then adversely criticised by some peace pedia. But when the spirit is the Boy Scout Movement may propbrought into contact with God the erly be regarded as military. If by result is a full, strong, balanced making soldiers is meant cultivatcharacter, with mentality and ing a spirit of pugnacity and the morality so blended as to dominate, glorification of war, then the Boy guard and guide the body and lead Scout Movement is non-military. to the complete expression of the These elements are not found in it. life God intended man to live." Only gradually does it become

clearly evident to the public at large THIS BEING so-and no friend of that both professionally and in prachuman welfare will dispute it- tice the organization of the Boy why should Catholics be hampered, Scouts in Canada is, always has been, and criticized, and abused for and, in so far as one can predict, putting the principle into practice ? always will be first of all a peace Why in this Province of Ontario organization. "Peace scouting for should they have to exercise con- character and citizenship," has stant vigilance in defence of even always been its platform.

the small percentage of constitu-Many still believe, in spite of tional rights heretofore accorded what has publicly been said and them-rights vital to the proper written and in spite of the most the stamina. the precision, and the carrying out of a principle which substantial proof to the contrary in power of self-direction that make a others acclaim in words but dis- the conduct of the leaders of the man more useful in war, infinitely claim in practice? It is the old boys, that the movement trains boys more useful to himself and others story of preaching without practic- for war. Two causes chiefly are in time of peace. The restricing on which moralists of every accountable for these false impres- tions of conduct necessary in war generation have descanted, and sions: the first inheres in the terms and popularly termed military, such THE DEATH of Dr. Theobald Spetz, fication. The term 'scouting' while, orders, have value in developing

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significance looks upon a uniform as

a cloak, which, to some extent, represents the character and purpose of the organization, and which thereby serves as a valuable means of claiming allegiance to those principles for which the organization stands. Moreover; it establishes a bond of brotherhood and unity. Differences of social standing are reduced to a minimum. Feelings of comradeship, unity, goodwill, and equal opportunity are increased to a maximum. If the boy's respect for the organization is increased and the good effects of unity and democracy are increased there certainly can be no objection to his using the uniform that can accomplish such results. More than any other uniform the adopted uniform does this. Where the conservation and fostering of the innate ambitions of a boy to wear a uniform is directed to militate against destruction and bloodshed, instead of for it, and against vice, corruption, and moral and economic waste, its use is not only justifiable but commendable.

Those responsible for the development of policies for the Boy Scouts Association have drawn a sharp distinction between educational values that are directed toward subjection and those, which, by the inculcation of self-control, resourcefulness, and fondness for group action, are directed towards independence, alertness, mutual helpfulness, and a sense of moral responsibility.

Though disciplined, Boy Scouts are not bellicose. They are not a fact that the organization is advocates because it does not substitute other activities for those of drilling in simple formation, signalling and camp-craft, and the fact that it is condemned by ardent militarists on the ground that it robs military discipline of much of its glamor, and thereby impedes recruiting, suggests the intelligent conservatism that has characterized its general policies. The general public is beginning to see that the programme and policies which have been adopted by the Association contribute admirably to the development of business ability, interested public service, patriotism, and good citizenship.

We must, in this country, develop 'scouting' and 'Boy Scouts.' For as closely regulated co-operation or criticism of these there is little justi- prompt and implicit obedience to of students, who will have carried servant, straightforward, unselfish, should be considered objectionable because they have a military appearance is unjust and unreasonable.

your leave" exercises that right; and so far from having received its death-blow British connection is immeasurably the stronger for

That is one definite step made by Canada ; innumerable others might be mentioned that have been taken within living memory. It tion with Downing Street, would be was loudly proclaimed, and the boast was no idle one, that the centre of the British Govern-ment in Ireland." the equal status of the sister nations of the British Common- be drawn up by Irishmen themselves at Paris. wealth received international recog- in accordance with the treaty connition at the Paris Peace Confer- cluded between the two nations. ence. True, General Smuts protests Even if it were as Mr. Childers was seeking a new head for the of the simple things of life, where ist was added zest as an historical that the acceptance by the Domin- stated, the Constitution of Can- School of War. ions of a position subordinate to ada was embodied in an Act ington Conference is a surrender of it was based on resolutions passed, secured at Paris. But this very part unanimously by the representa- and said : protest is a vigorous assertion of tives of the provinces concerned. Dominion right; it assures its In the case of Ireland an Act of the School of War.' reassertion and its achievement. British Parliament is necessary to Progress here is much more rapid give effect to the provisions of the you are doubtless unaware that one and pronounced than in the matter treaty; to its own abdication in of my brothers is a Jesuit.' of commercial treaties with its favor of the Parliament of the logical corollary of distinct and Irish Free State.

separate representation of Canada -and therefore of any other Dominion-at Washington, and elsewhere if or when desired. The world is coming to realize

that no nation lives to itself alone. Reporting the Washington Conference, Oswald Garrison Villard, writes:

"'The spirit of nationality rages tion no whit more than he does in be fooled with the assertion that nothing of. They had few chances ally examining their records, and uniform has in giving the organizalike a pestilence ; it is the curse of the legislation of the United States "Foch is a Protestant "-squarely of seeking pleasure, and so pleasure the result is a body of fundamental tion individuality and in cultivating Europe,' wrote Lord Hugh Cecil of America. The same practical face the notorious and, for them, was sent to them. We, of today, detail which will be of incalculable democracy and a feeling of common recently in the London Times. We test applies to the Governor awkwardly significant fact that start out in life with "a good time" value to the historian of the future. brotherhood. A boy looks upon the Christmas, unhappily there are still have had a pestilence of nationality General. The Governor-General of the man to whom more than as our main aim and object, and As a grandson and namesake of the Scout uniform as a distinguishing in the progress of the Washington Canada is bound to act on the advice to any other our victory is due God leaves us to find happiness first Catholic settler of Waterloo mark of manliness and dignified darkness and of paganism.

" Soon afterwards, Georges Clem-

"Everyone whose advice he "'I offer you the command of the

"'I know it very well,' was Clem-

to assent to Irish legislation is to thing that counts. '

that ?

ness, bubbling up within them. But enceau became Minister of War, and where did they get the joy? Out To Dr. Spetz'zeal as an education-

it is yet, though "the madding student, and it was in this capacity crowd" seems to suppose it lies in that he was best known to us. The that of Great Britain at the Wash- of the British Parliament; but sought said, unhesitatingly: Foch. disgusting abnormality or mon- history of the Diocese of Hamilton, "So the redoubtable old radical strous caricature, or in feverish and of the Catholic German settlethe status whose recognition was after years of discussion, for the most and anti-clerical summoned Foch piling up of one sensation upon ments of Waterloo County more

another. particularly, which he wrote as a "Oh," says the sophisticated memorial of the Golden Jubilee of mistrust that has prompted the young man or miss, "those old folks the Diocese, will long remain as his severe adverse criticism to which "'I thank you,' Foch replied, 'but did not know what a good time memorial. We had the privilege of the organization has been sub-Is it indeed so ? And you co-operating to some degree in this jected. was."

laugh ! The best you can do is a length in these columns, and the arise : If the organization is not enceau's answer. 'But you make feeble grin or a mirthless smile; impression we then formed and still military, what right have its pro-But to say the King could refuse But to say the King could refuse bod officers, and that is the only and why can't you do better than retain is that despite certain inci-the moder of the say the king could refuse the moder of the say the king could refuse the say the

betray crass ignorance of the Dominion status, the subject Mr. Childers was discussing. The rela-tion of the King to the Irish Free tion of the King to the Irish Free in a recent number of The Nation his relation to Canada. And the ignorance must-except with those depended on God, and He breathed a months in visiting the several boy's desire to wear such a King interferes in Canadian legisla- so densely ignorant that they can joy into their hearts that you know parishes of the diocese and person- uniform, and the value such a our day, a great many

in the development of those qualities, to help him reach his goal.

The second cause of mistrust Resembling in color and cut as it does the present service uniform worn by militiamen in Canada, it has served to create in the minds of people everywhere, both young and

old, an idea of the Boy Scouts as a military body.

To this fact, no doubt, is attributable the first interest which ultimately leads many boys into the | time of the Virgin Mary.

organization, as well as the subtle

do? Then laugh and prove it; work, and of reviewing it at some The questions therefore naturally dental defects which under the peculiar attractiveness which a ation are the better disposed toward

FEAST OF NATIVITY CARDINAL VICAR RECALLS SACRED SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRISTMAS

Rome, Dec. 15. - His Eminence, Cardinal Basilio Pompili, Bishop of Velletri and Vicar General of His Holiness, has issued the following letter urging the faithful to a fitting spiritual preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Our Saviour :

CARDINAL'S LETTER

"With a joy that is always new and unspeakable we celebrate every year the Day on which the Eternal Word of God wished to be born in

" In these days of so great rejoicing for all peoples, Christ appears to be newly born, and truly so, for it would seem that a new religious and moral life began throughout the entire universe. The life of each individual Christian not alone

derives new being from this most blessed Nativity, but it becomes so this sweet Mystery of hope and of

desires that this joy of soul may be tasted by all men, but, unhappily in

"The Divine works are constant and enduring. Although many souls who sit in the shades of