

Montreal Letter

Our Own Correspondent.
The commission appointed by the Government to settle the Protestant school troubles will at the end of their scope to the financial outlook of the Verdon Protestant school was never darker. Unable to raise the necessary bond coupons, the school was not met last November, and the resignation of Mr. Williams, one of the leading members of the Board, all tend to the troubles which have loomed over the Verdon School Board. A

consolidation of all the Protestant School Boards of Montreal seems to be the only solution of the difficulties. The Catholic High School Board announced the change in their policy of the High School, and have cancelled their agreement with the Presentation Brothers of Ireland. The school will be managed by Secular Priests, assisted by laymen. His Grace, Archbishop Gauthier, has sanctioned the change. Classics, ancient and modern, will receive more attention in the new curriculum of studies. Bitter opposition and indignation have been shown by the friends of the Irish Brothers over the change, and protest meetings held, but "the powers that be" rule, and

like the proverbial "tempest in the teapot," the new policy goes into effect next September. In the Catholic Schools there are eleven thousand (11,000) children being educated in streets, basements, and halls, and two thousand children are running the streets for the want of school accommodation. This state of things will go on for some time owing to the Catholic Commissions not having enough money to enlarge some schools and build new ones.

THE NEW ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

The home of the late Baron Shaughnessy has been purchased by Rev. Thomas O'Reilly for the sum of \$65,000. At present it is to be used as the new St. Mary's Hospital, until such time as a site can be purchased and a large building erected. The Shaughnessy home will then be a home for Catholic working girls, replacing the present one "Killarney" on LaSalle Street. In the meantime the campaign for funds for the new hospital is still in progress.

CHANGES AT THE CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.

The Catholic Sailors' Building is being renovated and much needed improvements added. Large and more attractive common rooms, billiard rooms and rest rooms will be attractively equipped. Tiled bathrooms and shower baths are also being built.

Up till this year the club rooms and offices have been leased to outside organizations. This space will now be all given over to new reception rooms on the ground floor, and to the enlargement of the concert room in the rear of the building which has been used as a reception room will be turned over for a billiard room.

The most complete and interesting changes are being made in the concert hall, where entertainments are held every Wednesday evening. The stage in the rear end of the hall is being raised, and extended on both sides and in front. Dressing rooms and green rooms are being built on either side, and a bathroom underneath. The back of the old hall has been torn down, making it reach to the very front of the building. The space, by this arrangement, will serve a double purpose, as a reception room during the day, and a theatre by night. The same room will be used for chapel on Sunday mornings, when the stage will be transformed by a portable altar.

Not only has the interior of the building been changed, but the exterior also will be so greatly recognizable when the contractors have completed their improvements and alterations. A large entrance is being built on St. Peter Street, while an entirely new stone front will transform the concert hall. The workmen will polish the stone on the rest of the building.

THE WEATHER STILL UNSETTLED.
May has been a very unsettled month, with dreary, cold, and rainy days holding sway. In fact it was more like April weather. Owing to the prevalence of frost, many people in the suburban districts are unable to do any planting.

LARGE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED.

The number of unemployed here is still very large, notwithstanding the opening of navigation and building operations. The number of English, Irish and Scotch emigrants arriving, swells the list, and a strange thing is that residents who have been out of employment for a year, and many of the new arrivals find work a few days after their arrival.

A young girl of sixteen stood in the Recorder's Court, charged with being "incorrigible." The father said that he could do nothing with her, that the home hath no charms for her, but that the street had more attractions for her and asked the judge to punish her. The judge severely reprimanded her and sent her to jail for a year.

WHY SOME FOLKS SUCCEED.

"There's a path to your success. You will find it after a while. If you seek with cheerfulness And you won't forget to smile." A writer says: "The whole universe is a wonderful mechanism. Every law in it harmonizes with every other law, every force in it co-operates with every other force. Only the honest mind and the good heart understand the world." There are hundreds of people who move among the throng of silent workers every day, who are weighed down with troubles of different kinds, and judging from their appearance they never show the least sign of them. They appear happy and contented. They go to their work with that calm and cheerfulness, that portrays no sign of sorrow or discontent. They are possessed of wonderful fortitude, and that grace and ease of manner that faces all difficulties with cheerfulness of temper, the winning smile, and the pleasant word. In my daily intercourse with people here, I meet one nearly every day, whose troubles are many and burdens in business heavy. Yet no one could ever tell that he was beset with such difficulties. He has the warm hand of friendship, the winning smile, the cheerful word, all proclaiming the perfect gentleman, and the man that's bound to succeed in his business. R. J. LOUIS CUDDEHY.

Hungary Has Fewest Births

Budapest, May 14. (A.P.)—While Germany, Poland and other countries vie with one another to ascertain which has the largest percentage in the birth rate, Hungary recently has taken her place at the foot of the list and admits it.

Statistics compiled here show that Hungary has now taken absolutely last place among all the European countries.

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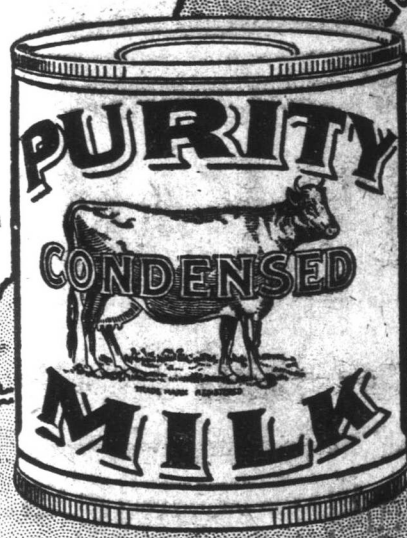
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