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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1915

THE CRISIS PASSED

Political crises in the midst of crisis which dwarfs all purely political issues and makes all petty political ambition seem paltry and unpatriotic can not fail to bring joy to the theroughly united ranks of the

While it is difficult to judge the gauses of political changes in Russia esults seem to be their ample justi-Scation. The entire unanimity of all parties in France which she justly calls "the sacred union" has made the reorganization of the government there easy and safe. It was easonably heped when the Coalition Government with all parties represented by their ablest men was formed in England that political dissension was given its quietus until at least the great struggle for nation. al ideals, national liberty and national existence was crowned with victorious peace. Nevertheless rumors of radical dissension in the Cabinet were so persistently recurrent that the resignation of a prominent member shocked but did not surprise the people throughout the Empire. That this resignation was the prelude to the break-down of the Coalition Government was certainly not an ungrounded fear. Happily the illness of the great statesman at the helm-who will ever know the physical and mental strain imposed by the burden of responsibility which weighs him down ?—gave the nation time to recover its mental balance before he was able to make the inevitable pronouncement and explanation. With dignity, restraint, forcefulness and lucidity he rendered to his self-governing fellow-subjects a transparently truthful account of his stewardship. Nobly did he voice the spirit of the nation, its faith and

its purpose. "So long as I enjoy the confidence of the sovereign and this house I will not surrender my task," he said amid cheers. "I am as con-fident now as I was fifteen months ago that we can carry our righteous cause to a triumphant conclusion. Let us endure to the end."

Impossible to indicate even the striking passages of the Premier's masterly speech which inspired confidence, shamed pessimism and stripped intriguing politicians of their mask patriotism.

What, then, is to be thought of Sir Edward Carson? He has been fulsomely praised as a great patriot and denounced as a traitor. We think he is neither patriot nor traitor. He is an Advocate. That has been the business of his life. As such he achieved a position in the forefront of England's great lawyers. He has amassed great wealth, for his services commanded fabulous fees. But he paid the price of success as a great advocate. It is not from such as he broad and statesmanlike views can be expected. His training and his absorption in his profession unfit him for anything but a minor part in public life. Overweening self-confidence impels him to the vaulting political ambition which o'erleaps itself. His political career was that of the advocate, not the statesman. He is not an Ulsterman ;-denationalized Ulster produces no leaders. Carson is not Ulster's leader; he is Ulster's advocate. His fee for pleading that cause was a factitious prominence in public life, which fed his political ambition.

It is quite natural that the anti-Asquith Northcliffites, and the infallible Tory reactionists should choose this able advocate for their devil's business of fishing in troubled pelitical waters.

Direct, straightforward, comprehensive, convincing, the Prime Minister's speech stands out in noble contrast to the pitiful special pleading of Carson's rejoinder. Not only that the wreckers have shot their

sio veri and suggestio falsi, but also the truculence that might be expected from Carson's shameless political career.

In his speech, which bristles with

the first person singular, he said : In my letter of resignation was this sentence: "Greece is atraid of the central powers; we should make her atraid of us."

And later :

"Greece - the king's party-is afraid of the central powers. We ought to make her afraid of us. Our naval supremacy enables us to do this, and for my part I would not this, and for my next which the the to inform her that unless she was prepared to join the allies in defense of Serbia we would break off friendly relations."

Thus would this statesmanlike highwayman use England's naval supremacy to teach Germany and the world due respect for the rights of small sovereign states.

Again :

"I cannot understand why, in spite of this shortage the Govern-ment embarked on the Dardanelles expedition, which has hung around our necks like a millstone.

"I do not believe the Government was justified in entering upon an expedition which has cost 100,000 casualties and suffering of a baffling description unless it was assured by its naval and military advisers of s probably successful outcome.

The suppressio veri and suggestion falsi of this futile and irrelevant criticism of an accomplished fact had already been shown in this passage of Asquith's speech :-

"People thinking and saying that the attack was initiated without full review of its latent possibilities are entirely mistaken. It was most care-fully conceived and was developed in consultation between the admiral on the spot, the war staff and the admiralty and before any decision was taken it was communicated to the French Admiralty, which entirely approved it and agreed to participate therein. It was enthusiastically received and acclaimed by the illustrious Grand Duke, then commanding the Russian army, who rightly thought it would assist him in the

Competent military critics believe though the immediate objective was not attained, that the Dardanelles operations have justified themsalves in that they kept the main Turkish army, Turkish effort and Turkish munitions engaged in repelling this attack and thus saved the situation which in the east," was all along as well as now "threatening the very vitals of our empire."

The military naval and civil authorities of the allied powers thought well of it; military criticsand ordinary intelligence can grasp their reasons—say it has justified itself. What of it? I, Sir Edward Carson, " I do not understand "-" I do not believe "-

Sir Edward Grey, pointed out the misleading nature of Carson's special pleading and made abundantly clear that the advocate turned statesman was still the advocate concerned not so much with truth and justice as with making points for his clients.

Here is a sample : "Sir Edward Carson," Sir Edward Grey said, "must have left the House probably would leave our allies under the impression that the Gov ernment made a promise to send help to Serbia and then vaciliated and hesitated and as a result some valuable opportunity for giving help

"It was perfectly true that after the Greek Government took a differ ent view of their treaty obligations to Serbia than that we had accepted there was a close consultation be-tween the British and French as to the best use which should be made of the forces to be sent to the Near East. But there was no delay in the preparations. The forces which were immediately at our disposal were landed at Saloniki and are now en gaged in the operations in the Bal kans, and the preparations went on for sending further forces to the East. No time had been lost in giving any assistance in the British and French power to Serbia in her hour of need.'

Sir Herbert Holt came in for some pretty severe criticism when on his return from England he expressed himself pretty vigorously on the rotten politics of men ranking high in England's public life. He might now point to Sir Edward Carson and the faction of whose political interests he is the able and unscrupulous

advocate. It is gratifying to all true Irishmen at this juncture, to note the contrast between the consistent patriotism of John Redmond, the Irish leader, and the shifty opportunism of the truculent advocate of the hyphenated Irish non-combatants of Ulster.

However saddening it may be to find the government thus harassed when united support is imperatively demanded, it is encouraging to find

is there here the advocate's suppres. | bolt and the War-Premier is again firmly entrenched in the confidence of the nation.

> JOHN REDMOND AND THE GREAT CRISIS

Since writing the above we have had a glance at the cable letter of that thoroughly well-informed member of the British House of Commons, T. P. O'Connor, who says that Mr. Asquith emerged triumphant from the most difficult situation of his political life on Tuesday of last week.

"One of the piquant contrasts in the debate," he writes, "were John Redmond's, and Sir Edward Carson's speeches. Mr. Redmond's speech was cheered by both the Tory and Liberal benches. Though he was most outspeken in his attack on the War Office methods and the mis-War Office methods and the mismanaging of recruiting in Ireland, these stupid errors made the more remarkable the extraordinary response of Ireland to the appeal.

"Mr. Redmond was interrupted with loud cries of 'shame' from all parts of the House when he attacked the narrow minded men who had refused to mention the gallant conduct of the Irish troops at Gallipoli, Suvla Bay and Loos. It is certain that the error will not be repeated, and that arrich will not be repeated, and that it is the bravery, never more conspicuous, will be recognized efficially in official despatches. In spite of the unholy combination of the Orangemen in Ireland and cranks in Amerea, the gailantry of the army is new universally recognized in England, and practically has killed the old hostility to Home Rule."

Though unflinching politic opponents, T. P. has always had a word of kindly appreciation for Sir Edward Carson with whom he is personally on terms of friendly relations.

His reference to his political enemy retains much of his kindly seelings to the great Irish lawyer :

"Sir Edward Carson's speech, by its vigor and directness, has de manded prompter action and en couraged the exasperated demand for vehement conduct of the war; but his letter to Mr. Asquith, with its violent tone in relation to Greece, is regarded as dangerously indiscreet, makes difficult his ever again entering the cabinet.'

As we have already noted the vigorous advocate is not a statesman. You can not teach an old dog new tricks.

The cable has not given us more of Redmond's speech than a sentence or two; but it has informed us that it was the subject of very favorable comment in the lobbies. In due time, when His Majesty's mails shall have brought us the text, we will place it before our readers.

A MANIFEST INJUSTICE

The Separate schools of the province of Ontario are permissive ; that is, no one, either Catholic or Protestant, is obliged to support them. That s the key note of the whole Separate school system in this province. Elsewhere—in Saskatchewan for instance -no option is given; Catholics within the district which has a Cathlic school have no choice ; they must support the Catholic school; Protestants and others must support the There is this to be urged in favor of the Western practice. Ratepayers cannot evade their thereby shirking their share of the cost of building either the one or the other, when a new school becomes necessary.

However, the permissive system has worked well, as a general rule, in Ontario. And there is, so far as we are aware, no general desire to replace it by compulsion despite the well-known fact that, irrespective of religion, there are ratepayers who easily succumb to the temptation to

shirk any avoidable taxation. The successive Governments in Ontario have always taken a common sense view of this question. Whether personally in favor of or opposed to Separate schools the members of the Government recogarbitrarily hampered, but rather enabled to fulfil adequately their share of the educational work of the

province. Hence the amendment to the School Act which made it obligatory that the taxes of the tenant whose children attended the Separate schools should go to the Separate schools. If the landlord be a Catholic and the tenant a Protestant the school-tax must go to the Public school; if the landlord be a Protestant and the tenant a Catholic it was conceded that the school tax should go to support the school in which the tenant's children were educated. This is common sense and slemen. tary justice.

Now had it been thought of at that time the question of the children of mixed marriages would have been settled by the same amendment. If the father is a Catholic and the mother a Protestant, as the law now stands, the taxes may be paid either to the Separate or to the Public school without regard to the question of which school may have to bear the expense of educating the children. Naturally if the children go to the Public school the taxes go there too. If the father, however, is a Protestant and the mother a Catholic, even though the father desires to bring up his children as Catholics, he is not allowed to pay his taxes to the Separate schools in which his children are receiving their education.

This is a manifest injustice. With out changing the essentially permissive system of Separate schools, the law with regard to tenants should be extended to cover this case.

Recently the Board of Education in Toronto complained that between fifty and sixty children of Separate school supporters are attending the Public schools. The Toronto Board of Education is not remarkable either for its common sense or for its sense of justice. Yet they were parisotly justified in complaining of having imposed on them the burden of educating pupils, whether it were fifty or five, whose parents paid their school tax elsewhere. The Management Committee which made the complaint, however, refused to give the names of the children of Saparate school supporters who were attending the Public schools. Brother Rogatian showed by a detailed statement that five hundred and eighty-nine children of Public school supporters were attending Separate schools. These, presumably, are the children of mixed marriages where the father is a non-Catholic.

Is it fair, is it decent, is it honest to compel the Separate schools to educate these children while the parents are obliged by law to pay heir school-tax to the Public schools ?

If the landlord must pay his taxes to the school where his tenants' children are educated is there not precisely the same reason why the father should be allowed, if not compelled, to pay his school-tax to the school in which his children are receiving their education?

This is not a matter which affects Toronto alone, but one which imposes an unfair burden, more or less serious, on every Separate school in the province.

EUCHRE AND DANCE

It has always been a difficult task to keep up interest and enthusiasm in the ordinary Catholic society or club. In the beginning there is a great deal of fireworks, and great deeds are planned to the accompaniment of many resolutions and streams of eloquence. But gradually the enthusiasm wanes. Activity Meetings have to be adjourned for just obligations by electing now to by one the members drop away, unbe Separate school supporters, and til but a few are left, and these few before their eyes men are still trying now supporters of the Public school, those who need least the vitalizing to graft stones upon trees, and going tonic of organization.

very many Catholic organizations. And very many good people have puzzled over the reason. We venture to offer a solution. And it is found in the title of this article. [In other words, very many societies lay too much stress on the merely social side. A stereotyped "suchre and dance" is the order of the day, and they recur with monotonous regularity. Now, it is true that a certain amount of that kind of amusement is not only necessary, but, looked at from the proper standpoint, is laudable. Our young people want, indeed need, that kind of thing, and the place for them to so enjoy nized the fact of their existence, and themselves is under the proper that the general good of Ontario de- auspices, with their fellow Catholics, manded that they should not be under the roof of a Catholic club. But the fatal mistake is to imagine that the provision of such amusement is the raison d'etre of the society. It is impossible to keep up interest and enthusiasm on such diet. The intellectual faculties must not be neglected if we are to hold our members together and achieve

anything worth while. We commend to the officers of our Catholic societies a variation in their program. Let them remember bers better Catholics and better citi. ful.

zens. Gracefully tripping the "light fantastic" does not help materially to attain this end. Let them decide on a varied plan of campaign for the winter months. Let the bill of fare include, in addition to a "euchre and dance," and a "smoker," lectures, debates and concerts. We predict that the results will be satisfactory and COLUMBA. compensating.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE RECENT collapse of the Angli can Benedictine experiment at Pershore (Isle of Caldey), Worsestershire, leads the Canadian Churchman to conclude, once for all, and for the very last time, that there is " really no room for it (the Benedictine Rule) in the Anglican Church." It will be remembered that a little over a year ago, almost the entire community which had established itself under Anglican auspices at Pershore submitted in a body to the Catholic Church, and, after due probation continued their religious life as real Benedictines. Aremnant of this community, however, remained at Caldey and essayed to demonstrate that, contingencies not withstanding, it was possible to live the Benedictine life within the Church of England. It is the cellapse of this later experiment, with the submission of the remnant to the Catholic Church, that has occasioned our Canadian contemporary's sage observation.

THAT 80 essentially Protestant an organization as the Church of Eng. land could not assimilate the spirit of monasticism seemed to students of its history and constitution a foregone conclusion. It has been tried in many ways, and-it need not be questioned-in the most laudable of spirits, but with the entire genius of Anglicanism against it success was not possible. Preaching and teaching bodies, both male and female having some outward resemblance to Catholic religious orders have had some measure of success in the Anglican communion, but to graft upon the same organization the monastic spirit of seclusion, penance, and contemplation was to submit it to a test which could have but one of two endings-total collapse and dispersion, or, as happily with the Pershore community, submission in a body to the Catholic Church. This latter is what the Canadian Churchman rightly designates as the "only logical step." The Catholic Church similarly, says the Anglican Bishop of prominent actress. And yet such those having monastic aspirations. Their ideal is certainly not to be found elsewhere.

BUT IS the collapse of the Caldey affair the death blow, as the Church. man seems to think, to similar experiments in the Church of England? We scarcely think so. So long as men continue to cherish the evangelical counsels, and to look back with admiration and longing upon the gives place to a state of coma pre-Reformation life of England, even while shutting their eyes to its rea want of the necessary quorum. One significance, so long are such essays probable. With the failure at Caldey even further in outward manifesta-This is in outline the history of tions of the religious life as Anglicans than their Catholic exemplars. Only the other day, as we read in Old Country exchanges, the neighborhood of Edinburgh was startled by the apparition of a monk clad in the Franciscan habit with the typical brown beard and tonsured head of the sons of the great Saint of Assisi. and with sandalled feet and crucifix thrust in girdle as if upon a mission bent gliding through the streets of the Scottish capital.

IT was, as we further read, natur ally expected that this apparition would presently be found saying Mass at a Catholic altar, but not so. The 'monk" was a member of the Anglican Society of the Divine Compassion, which has existed for several years, and has at least two houses in England. This society has been deliberately formed on the Franciscan model, and with the same aim of demonstrating the feasibility of such a life in the Church of England. In their case the Caldey episode will no doubt in time be repeated, but meanwhile the experiment, as others similar, is being made, and Catholics will only pray that these excellent men may soon see its futility and the reasons that first led them to find their way as Catholics into the form their societies. In their first real Franciscan Order, where they fervor they planned great things for will not exist on mere sufferance but their organization. Their club was under duly constituted superiers, to be an educational centre. They and under the blessing and authority would endeavor to make their mem. of the common Father of the Faith-

THAT CATHOLICS are "superstitious," "ignorant," and "idolatrous, is a commonly accepted fact among many otherwise intelligent and wellinformed people. It is useless to deny it, the thing is so patent and self-evident. But what about Protestant superstitions ? The idea is ridionlous! Protestantism is the religion of enlightenment and progress, and all the old childish fetichism which lay like a nightmare upon the "dark ages" has, so far as they are concerned, been relegated into the dim and forgotten past. Catholics alone of all people still dwell under these shadows, and to this may be attributed the backward condition of Romish countries and the slavish subservience of the masses to an ignorant priesthood. This and much more is the burden of complaint against us. That it is based upon ignorance, prejudice and misappre hension in no way militates against the gravity of the indictment.

BUT PROTESTANT superstitions though kept out of the limelight of denunciation are none the less a reality for all that. It takes only a crisis of national affairs or a great upheaval to bring them to the surface, and the present War is just such an eccasion. It is not a Catholic journal that has been dragging this into the light of late, but the essentially prosaic and Protestant Lendon Times. With the nationwide campaign for enlistments, and the exodus of troops for the Continent tha thing not so much began, as became epidemic. Jewellers trinkets, in metal and stone, which lovers presented to each other, and wore attached to bracelets or chains to bring mutual constancy, prosperity and happiness, were first, the Times tells us, bought by the public and given as protective agents to relatives and friends who had enlisted.

THEN A SPECIAL charm for scidiers called "Touchwood," and described as the "wonderful Eastern charm," was designed and is having an enormous sale. The design is the little figure of a man, mainly head, with a khaki cap, sparkling eyes and gold or silver legs. The designer states that he has sold 1.250,000 of these superstitious images since the War began. In Regent's Park recently there was a curious scene when 1,200 officers and men of the City of London Rifles were presented each with one of these charms by a Hereford, is the "natural home" of people scoff at crucifixes, scapulars and the like .- objects to excite the religious sense, not silly charms. which debase and destroy all simple trust in Providence. It is safe to say that such superstitious charms as described have no place in the trenches occupied by the Catholic soldiers of France, Belgium or Italy, nor, for that matter, by those of schismatic Russia. That in the British ranks such misguided devotees are not to be found among the lic fellows from the sister Kingdoms Africa. Since the Sodality of may be asserted with equal confi-

ON THE BATTLE LINE

While the lines on the Eastern and Western fronts are practically deadlocked the Balkans remain the centre of gravity of the War. Things here have taken a decidedly favorable turn. The neutrality cabinet of Greece has resigned. This with the constantly increasing Allied forces in the Balkan Peninsula cannot fail to have a serious influence on Roumania Were Roumania and Greece to join the Allies the Balkan campaign, instead of prolonging the War, would hasten its end in disastrous defeat for the Germanic powers. It is reported that the fall of the Greek Cabinet has caused consternation in Berlin. This can be easily believed. The Russians are developing

strength all the time both in defensive and offensive operations, a fact which must have a tremendous influence on Roumania. The speedy con clusion of the War depends on Roumania and Greece joining the Allies, and there is ground for hope that both will do so. The war in the Balkans begins to

take shape. Two British divisions, amounting to about 87,000 men, left Saloniki yesterday for the Bulgarian stand the beginning, after remedies frontier, where they will join the come too late." French army and the British brigade already at the front. The number of Angle-French troops in southern and more men are landing daily at Saloniki. The Allies are not likely to attempt the invasion of that part of Bulgaria east of the Rhodope Mountains from the saloniki. Saloniki base. It must not be for | against him.

gotten that these mountains, with many peaks of between 6 000 and 7 000 feet, and one of over 10,000, constitute a great, and, in winter, an al-most insurmountable barrier, separating Bulgaria from the Macedonian Highlands. The army now advanc-ing up the valley of the Vardar is in-tended to prevent the Bulgarians from overrunning southern Macedon-is or from cutting off the retreating main Serbian army which is seeking a refuge either in the mountains o Montenegro or in those of Macedonia. When the present period of rapid movement ends the Allies will probably be found holding a line from the Adriatic through Montenegro, Albania and southern Macedonia to the Bul-

The Bulgars are trying hard to de-

occupation at once of southern Macedonia. A force of about 18,000 Bulgars, and accompanied by some Turkish officers, has been despe across the mountains from Veles oward Monastir. It reached the Babuna Pass north of Prilip without being challenged, but there two regiments of Serbs have held the pass against the Bulgars for about a week. The Serbs in this region are now in touch French left wing, and the addition fairly strong front from the vicinity of Strumnitza to Prilip. An official French report states that the Bulgars are entrenching in front of their lines near Krivolak, which would indicate that they intend to held the Allies by defensive action there if possible while they complete the conquest of Macedonia. The Allies are not going to be rendered immobile by such tactics. It is announced that French and British cavalry patrols are appearing in the region between Prilip and Monastir. The Governor of that city, after a visit to the scene of the fighting in the Babuna Pass, sent a reassuring message to his wife advising her not to leave the city, as conditions at the front had improved.

The French despatch gives no warrant for a Bulgar claim that the French have been defeated near Krivolak. It states that notwithstanding violent preparations by the Bulgar artillery, the enemy failed decidedly in all their attempts against the Krivolak bridgehead. On the same day the French carried two villages and attacked the hill crests on the frontier. The Bulgar artillery have shown great activity, and have violently bombarded Valandovo. It is evident that the Allies are in touch with an important body of the enemy's troops.—Toronto Globe, Nov. 6.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

ST. LOUIS GIRL BUILDS CHAPEL IN AFRICA

Last week a young woman of St. Louis employed in a down town office turned over a small inheritance she had just received in its entirety to the Sadality of St. Peter Claver for a chapel in Africa with chalice and altar for same. \$600 in all.
She made the gift in memory of

her deceased parents and asked that the chapel be dedicated to the Holy Family and that her name as donor be withheld. For five years this same girl has been giving \$5.00 a month out of her salary to the foreign missions besides taking a practical interest in home missions. Her first acquaintance with the African Missions distinctively, dates back to a year ago last when she heard Baroness von Schoenau Wehr give an illustrated sons of Saint Patrick or their Catho- lecture on heathen and Christian Peter Claver opened its public office in the Fullerton Building, St. Louis, March 8, of this year, she has made repeated visits to Room 520 small donations. The direct forerunner of her present early Christianike act of generosity was a donation of \$25 in the month of July for the ransom of a slave. In explaining how she happened to make the disposition she did of her inheritance, she said she felt she could get more out of her money in this than in any other way; that the happiness the very giving of it brought her was the truest earthly delight she could experience, then over and above there remained the consciousness of the awaiting supernatural reward. In the letter which enclosed the check cccur two sentences mirroring a gleam of that zeal which breathed through the Infant Church when the multitude of believers had but one heart and one soul. She writes: I am most happy to be able to give this chapel in memory of my good parents, having just received the amount as a legacy from the estate. I do not want any publicity as donor. Please make a note of this in sending remittance to headquariers that my name be withheld from all publica

> We must be watchful, says Thomas a Kempis, especially in the beginning of a temptation, because then the enemy is easier overcome when he is not suffered to come in at the door o the soul but is kept out and resisted at his first knock.

Whence a certain man said : "With-

First a bare thought comes, then a strong imagination: afterwards de-light, and evil motion and consent. And thus, by little and little, the