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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1904.

LEADERSHIP.

When Sir John A. Macdonald died some of the political wisecracks of the day feared the deluge might come before the inheritance of leadership could be settled securely among his followers. Immediate efforts were made to arrange the entail, and when Sir John Thompson appeared it looked as if the rightful heir had at length been found. After his passing the deluge looked probable again; but the change in public opinion which dispossessed the Conservative party allowed no doubt to prevail among Liberals as to who was entitled to the sceptre of leadership on their side.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has since swayed the destinies of Canada with constantly increasing popular approval. When, four years ago, he was returned to power with a greatly increased majority, his opponents could only say of him that he owed it to a "solid Quebec." His administration since has been so clean and satisfactory that his party was able to appeal to the voters on the 3rd inst. without the necessity of having to hear or answer any charge of maladministration or even semblance of such thing. The customary cries of corruption were not heard in the campaign, which in a few weeks had shaken every issue down to a mere difference of view upon the transportation question. It was, however, a difference that meant much to the credit and prosperity of the country, and the popular decision has been a decisive endorsement of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's railway policy. The cry cannot now be raised of a "solid Quebec," because a solid Canada has lined up behind the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Ontario alone recording a Conservative majority, but hardly more than an even break.

The victory is due in equal measure to Canadian confidence in Sir Wilfrid Laurier and in his policy. The overwhelming popular victory he has won stands unparalleled in the annals of the Dominion, and this great benefit must accrue from it, that such emphatic evidence of support from every province of the Dominion will put an end for the future to all factionist cries all too frequent in the political record of other days.

CATHOLICS IN PUBLIC LIFE.

Catholic associations in England and Germany, and Catholic leaders in America have in recent years been encouraging Catholic men to interest themselves in public affairs, to qualify themselves for public life and emulate others in zeal for the general welfare. Here in Canada the returns of the recent election show that English-speaking Catholics have been making progress along this line without the same amount of urging that we read of elsewhere. Sixteen English-speaking Catholics are among the members-elect of the new parliament, twelve on the Liberal side and four on the Conservative.

The constituencies represented by these English-speaking Catholics are spread from one end of the Dominion to the other, and it is a notable fact that the candidates were not confronted with creed prejudices in any of the provinces.

From Quebec province the represen-

tation includes, along with Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice, the names of Mr. Power, of West Quebec, and Gallery, of St. Ann's, Montreal. The following Ontario constituencies have elected Catholics: Kingston, Harty; Nipissing, McCool; West Northumberland, McColl; Thunder Bay, Conmee. Nova Scotia counts Antigonish, McIsaac; and South Cape Breton, Johnston, whilst Hon. John Costigan has been returned once more for Victoria, N. B., and Mr. G. Reilly has renewed his record in Victoria, B.C. Kings, P.E.I., has, of course, re-elected Mr. Hughes. On the Conservative side are Mr. F. D. Monk (Jacques Cartier), Walsh (Huntingdon), Macdonell (South Toronto), and Daniel (St. John, N.B.)

The True Witness may be pardoned for expressing particular pleasure that this substantial increase in the representation of English-speaking Catholics in the House of Commons synchronizes with a marked absence of creed and factionist spirit in our federal politics.

PARTIES IN QUEBEC.

Dissolution of the Provincial Legislature has been followed by quite an extraordinary proceeding on the part of the leader of the Opposition. In a manifesto to the electorate he makes the plea that the Liberal victory in the recent federal contest, the immediate dissolution of the legislature, and the near date fixed for nominations form a combination of circumstances against which it is futile for the recognized Opposition to contend. This may be all true as far as it goes; but to say that it constitutes a menace to provincial autonomy is neither logical nor plausible. Still more unreasonable is the view of Hon. Mr. Flynn that "the interests of the province will be best served and the dignity of our institutions more successfully safeguarded by protesting against this act of administration and in abstaining from taking part in the fight."

Provincial autonomy is something that is not concerned in any way with the issue thus raised. Party government only is at stake, and for this Mr. Flynn is more responsible than Mr. Parent. Party government must not be mistaken as the corollary of provincial autonomy. In federal affairs we have adopted the plan of party government from the British system and find it well suited to the work of government in this Dominion, just as it has been found in the Australian Commonwealth. Of course we had the party system in Canada before representative institutions were conceded; but we have adhered to it because it has continued to fit itself to our large questions of public policy, such as the tariff, national development and the like. Still, even in Dominion matters it would be possible to slip the party cables without incurring any immediate danger of representative government drifting upon the rocks.

In provincial affairs the party system is far less a desideratum. Mr. Flynn must feel this to be so because he protests that provincial Liberals should not seek to identify their cause with that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He, however, does not appear to perceive the inevitable effect of this very protest, which is that if provincial Liberalism has no identity with federal Liberalism, neither can a Conservative opposition have any party standing on the floor of the Legislature. Furthermore, Mr. Flynn, as the leader of that opposition, can have no call to issue his manifesto to the electorate.

"The Parent Government," he says, "is working with the evident desire to suppress the opposition which is so essential to the proper working of constitutional government. It wishes to stifle the free voices which have up to the present time censured its measures and its acts of maladministration and prevented a hitherto unheard of precipitation from being brought to the knowledge of the people. And the Government has taken this means to obtain its object. Very well. Let it be done. Let the Provincial Cabinet govern as it sees fit. The Conservative party will continue to watch from without with

all possible diligence and to be in a position at the proper time to place the Government in accusation before the electorate if its future policy should be so unfortunately inspired as has been that of the past.

"The Conservative party in the province of Quebec abstains at the present time, but it does not abdicate its functions. We will await with our arms in our hands a favorable moment to recommence the battle in the interests of the province and its institutions. Let our friends remain firm in their conviction and faithful to the old flag. Let all good citizens, irrespective of their party affiliations, support our protest. The hour of our vindication will come, and perhaps sooner than the victors of to-day realize."

These declarations are, to say the least, inconclusive, if not contradictory. The main fact to consider is whether there is or is not a Conservative opposition in the legislature. We have already said that if this be so its preservation is really non-essential to the proper working of constitutional government in the province. Mr. Flynn says there is an opposition. He speaks again and again of the Conservative party. Well, then, he as leader of that party cannot abdicate, even temporarily, the functions of his leadership without secession from the party system. His manifesto is a confession pure and simple that the Conservative party is too exhausted after the federal fight to enter upon a provincial contest; and being without hope of success, chooses to let public judgment go against it by default. This necessity means neither reflection nor danger to the public interest. It implies nothing more or less than this paltry fact, that an exhausted party organization, unable to fight against overwhelming odds, will play the baby act to show a grievance. The grievance is one with which the electorates cannot be expected to sympathize.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The re-election of Theodore Roosevelt to the lofty position of President of the United States has been carried by a mighty wave of public approval. The overturn of the old-time vote of New York State is an indication of the general condition of Democracy, which, to compare great things with small, appears to do something like that of the Conservative opposition in Quebec. Perhaps for the first time in the history of the Republic, the Irish vote went overwhelmingly Republican. This was a tribute to the manly patriotism of Theodore Roosevelt himself, who, in his tenure of office, has placed himself above all race and creed prejudices. He has come into contact with Irish-Catholic leaders and societies, has expressed his admiration for their sympathies and activities, and in fact upon all occasions by word and act has encouraged the cultivation of national sentiment without seeking to diminish the wholly beneficial influence of race tradition and faith, rightly regarded from the point of view of true statesmanship. What a contrast this to the personality of Mr. John Hay, one of the leaders of Mr. Roosevelt's administration, who is notoriously prejudiced against the Celt and his religion, and has ostentatiously displayed both malice and bigotry in his literary work. It must have been a bitter pill for the Irish-Catholic voters who went to the polls for Roosevelt to swallow Mr. Hay; but it is creditable to their sense of patriotism and independence of opinion that they put such personal obstacles out of the way through high motives. Mr. Roosevelt says he will not seek re-election; and if the Presidential term upon which he now enters proves nothing more than a continuation of his record up to the present, no section of the American people will be likely to regret the remarkable endorsement received by him on Tuesday from the electors of the Republic.

The great need of to-day is old-fashioned love, old-fashioned engagements, and sacred home marriages.

THE NEUTRAL SCHOOL IN FRANCE.

A writer in The Tablet, London, throws a flood of light upon the influence and purpose of the neutral school in France. That influence and purpose is to empty the places of religion in the educational system of the state, to make a place for Socialism and Atheism, and to cast Christian morality aside as an unscientific and useless doctrine. At the congress of the Education League recently assembled at Amiens, a resolution was adopted defining the new system, or rather deriding the old. It was couched in these terms: "Morality is a product of human evolution; in its methodical progress it will become more and more scientific; it is therefore absolutely independent of any religious or metaphysical doctrine."

So that, though we overlook the slur thrown at religion by these words, we find in the terms of the resolution itself a straight contradiction of the facts of the existing situation, because it is not to methodical progress that the neutral school owes its rise and existence, but to the support of the State, aided by violence and hypocrisy. There is neither method nor morality discernible in the establishment of the French neutral school, and the system can last no longer than the tyranny that upholds it may endure, be the period long or short.

A ST. FRANCIS OF ART.

Artists nowadays—when they have the chance—are luxurious folk, but Hungary can boast of a very remarkable exception. This is Baron Laszlo Mednyanszky, who comes of a very old aristocratic family. He gave up as a young man all the privileges of his class to become a sort of St. Francis in art. He dresses and lives in the very humblest way; fruit and vegetables are his food; all his good clothes and his money he gives to the poor. He has four or five studios—at Budapest, Vienna, Paris and elsewhere—but he keeps them not so much for his own use as to lend them to friends poorer than himself. Whilst he allows himself only the barest necessities of life, he makes an allowance to many an unfortunate man or woman out of work, on the pretence that they are his models. His masterpieces, of which many have been bought in Italy, France and Germany, are all sold for the benefit of the poor. When the few coppers he keeps for himself are exhausted, the Baron does not hesitate to work as a porter to earn enough to keep him for a while, and then back he goes to his art.

OBITUARY.

The funeral of Mrs. McNerny, wife of John McNerny, took place on Tuesday morning from her late residence on Hermine street, to St. Patrick's Church, where there was a solemn Requiem. The celebrant was the Rev. Thomas McNerny, son of deceased, assisted by Father Heffernan as deacon and Father Polan as sub-deacon. At the Cote des Neiges Cemetery there was a Libera in which Fathers Kiernan, Cullinan, Heffernan and Holland took part.

The funeral took place yesterday morning of Mrs. Casey, wife of Mr. Felix Casey, contractor, to St. Patrick's Church. A harmonized Requiem Mass was rendered by the full choir, assisted by Messrs. Sheridan, McCaffrey and Pellerin. At the Offertory Mr. Lamoureux rendered Pie Jesu. The solos of the Dies Irae were given by Mr. P. McCaffrey, and those of the Libera by Mr. James Mansfield. There were no pall-bearers. After the service the remains were taken for interment to Cote des Neiges.

MRS. MARTIN RYAN.

The sad news of the death of Mrs. Martin Ryan, nee Joan McDonald, will come as a surprise to many readers of the True Witness, of which Mrs. Ryan was a subscriber, and a large circle of friends in Montreal, where she deceased was for many years a resident. Senile exhaustion, the result of an attack of pneumonia, was the cause of her death, which occurred in Boston on the 28th of October. In compliance with her dying request, the remains were conveyed to her ancestral home, the residence of her brother, Mr. John McDonald, to be interred by the side of her late husband and family at L'Acadie. Her sweet, amiable disposition and blameless life endeared her to all who knew her. A large circle of sorrowing friends and relatives accompanied her to her last resting place. R. I. P.

MRS. McQUILLEN.

On Oct. 21, Mrs. Elizabeth McQuillen died of appendicitis at her home, 442 Beauport St., Manchester, N.H., aged 63 years. She was born in St. Bridget, P.Q., and for the last thirteen years had been a resident of Manchester, where a host of neighbors and friends mourn her death. The survivors are a husband, James McQuillen, four sons, James R., John H., Peter E., of Manchester, and Thomas J., of Cleveland, O., five daughters, Sr. M. Lucille, of the Sisters of Mercy of Nashua, N. H., Elizabeth, Catherine, Mary J., and Susie B., of Manchester, and two grandchildren. She was a member of the Maternity and Sacred Heart societies, and a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church.

Mrs. McQuillen was the second daughter of Capt. James McGuire

and Mary McNulty. Mrs. McQuillen's life had been beautiful. She was a devoted wife, and her home and children were always the centre of her interest. Her late illness was of but short duration, and she died peacefully. Her funeral took place from St. Patrick's Church at 9 o'clock on Monday, Oct. 24th. A solemn High Mass of Requiem was sung. The Rev. Matthew Creamer was celebrant, with the Rev. Thomas O'Leary, chancellor of the diocese, as deacon, and the Rev. John Brophy as sub-deacon. The services at the grave were conducted by the Rev. Father Creamer. Interment was made in St. Joseph's Cemetery. She received many spiritual bouquets.

THE ORIGINAL CHARLIE O'MALLEY.

In one of the cemeteries of Toronto, is the grave of the original Charles O'Malley. The tomb is a coffin-shaped stone of Irish granite, decorated at the corners with shamrocks beautifully worked in flagstone. It bears the following inscription, now beginning to be undecipherable: "Francis Gethings Keogh Cohortis XXIX. Dux. Obit. Jan IX. MDCCCLIV. Aetatis suae lx."

Keogh, as an officer in an Irish regiment, is said to have had such a remarkable series of experiences that Lever utilized them in his famous and rollicking story in which, according to a Saturday Reviewer, "pistol shots circulated as freely as claret, the one being generally a consequence of the other." Keogh retired from the army and came to America after the book appeared, living with friends in Buffalo. A resident of Toronto, Matthew Codd, took a great interest in the man, either from a personal knowledge of the family or knowing of his having been the original of the O'Malley character, and when Keogh fell ill in Buffalo, Codd had the sick man removed to Toronto, where he died and was buried in the plot adjoining Codd's.

CANCER A RESULT OF DRINKING BEER.

An inquiry by Dr. Alfred Wolf into the mysterious causes of cancer has yielded an unexpected conclusion which promises temperance advocates a new and powerful argument. Dr. Wolf discovers that all the districts of high cancer mortality are districts in which beer or cider is largely drunk. Bavaria, for instance, heads the list in Germany, and Salzburg in Austria, both great beer drinking provinces. In France the statistics are still more striking. There is the most marked contrast between the high cancer mortality in beer drinking departments and the low death rate from cancer elsewhere.

NOTES FROM THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH.
A special meeting of the committee in connection with social to take place towards the end of November, will be held at Patrick's Hall to-morrow evening 7.30. Mrs. F. B. McNamee, president, and it is hoped all members will be concluded for the benefit of the social in the Armour Rev. Luke Callaghan speaking last week in visiting certain parts of Ontario. Last Sunday he officiated in one of the Toronto churches. Rev. James Killoran was last in the Diocese of Pembroke, where Rev. Father McInerney, who here to attend the funeral of his mother.

ST. ANN'S PARISH.
The women's retreat in connection with the jubilee exercises was on Sunday evening, when Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., preached the first sermon. The church was given to the doors. Instruction was given at the morning Masses every evening during the week, closing takes place on Sunday noon.

ST. MARY'S PARISH.
The concert held on Monday in aid of the poor of the parish, by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, proved to be a most enjoyable affair. The hall, which is a gem filled to its utmost capacity. The programme, though long, was well executed, and consisted of solos, choruses, readings, drills, jigs and piano hymns. St. Mary's choir, Gabriel's Quartette, the pupils of the Convent, assisted by well-known ladies and gentlemen of the parish, all delighted the audience in their different specialties. Father McDonald and his committee are to be congratulated on the success attending their efforts.

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH.
The third of the series of parties will be held on Wednesday evening, Nov. 23rd, and will be under the auspices of St. Anthony's, No. 126. The promises to be as successful as the former ones.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH.
On Monday morning, Nov. 7.30, the last Mass was said temporary chapel over the St. street fire station. A large number of the parishioners assisted, they brought away with them memories of the little chapel which has served them so well for so long. A solemn High Mass will be sung, Thursday, Nov. 10th. Thanksgiving Day, to thank God for all the favors granted during the construction of the new church, new pews were put in during the week, and will be occupied for the first time on Sunday.

In a few days a private school for the children of the parish will be opened. The pastor is leaving stone turned to provide means to build up a lasting model parish.

ST. AGNES PARISH.
The mission which was given last week by Rev. Fathers Connoy, J., and Meloche, S.J., of the Immaculate Conception Church, was successful. At the High Mass Sunday Rev. Father Meloche, preached, and in the evening he led the mission with an appropriate sermon and the Papal Benediction. The temporary chapel, at the Hall, was crowded. Rev. J. Casey, the pastor, is greatly pleased with the good results of the mission.

The euchre party held on Wednesday evening at the Town Hall in aid of the church fund was a success.

MORE ENGLISH WANTED FOR OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

Give the child a thorough grounding in his own language before learning a foreign one, seems to be the prevailing opinion in the educational system in Montreal. It is also necessary, but not at the expense of the mother tongue. A little children do with a foreign tongue, when they can neither read nor write their own properly? child should be compelled to acquire a good knowledge of the French language, either English or French. A spattering of both

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