

The Catholic Record

Price of Subscription—\$1.50 per annum.
 United States & Europe—\$3.00

Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey, L.L.D.
 Editor, Rev. James T. Foley, R. A. Thomas Coffey, L.L.D.

Advertisements for teachers, situations wanted, etc., 50 cents each insertion. Remittance to accompany the order.

Approved and recommended by Archbishops and Bishops of the United States and Canada, the Archbishops of Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa and St. Boniface, the Bishops of London, Hamilton, Peterborough, and Oshesong, N. Y., and the clergy throughout the Dominion.

The following agents are authorized to receive subscriptions and orders for the CATHOLIC RECORD:

- General agents: M. J. Haggarty, Vincent St. Cox, and Miss Jessie Doyle, Resident agents: George B. Brewster, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. W. B. Smith, Halifax; Miss Bertha Saunders, Sydney; Miss L. Heringer, Winnipeg; E. A. Costello, 226-24th ave. West, Vancouver, B. C.; Miss Johnson, 211 Rochester st., Ottawa; Miss Rose McKeaney, 149 D'Alouille street, Quebec; Mrs. George B. Smith, 220 St. Ursula street, Montreal; M. J. Herwin, Montreal, B. F. O'Toole, 247 Montcalm st., Regina, Sask.; and E. J. Murphy, Box 188, Saskatoon.

Obituary and marriage notices cannot be inserted except in the usual condensed form. Each insertion 20 cents.

Subscribers changing residence will please give old as well as new address.

In St. John N. B., single copies may be purchased from Mrs. M. A. McGuire, 340 Main Street, John N. B., and The O'Neill Co., 250 Victoria St., Montreal.

In Montreal single copies may be purchased from J. Milloy, 341 St. Catherine street, west.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 22, 1917

CHRISTMAS

Before next week's RECORD can reach its readers the great feast of Christmas will have come and gone. The wisdom of the Catholic Church in commemorating great events which are vitally interwoven with religion is evidenced in a degree truly remarkable in the happy and holy feast of Christmas. Not alone within the Church whose limits are the ends of the earth, but without the fold, to minds and hearts everywhere in the civilized world Christmas comes bringing with it the holiest and happiest influences. In some sense, in a very real sense, Christ is born again in countless hearts and minds. Overshadowed again as it is by the awful tragedy of Christendom at war Christmas brings its joys, its blessings and its graces, and breathes over all the spirit of peace to men of good-will. Never was the need of Christmas so great. Its message with all its deep significance is the one gleam of hope in a darkened world.

To all our readers and friends the CATHOLIC RECORD wishes a happy, holy and—in a true sense of the time honored expression—a merry Christmas.

FREEDOM AND ANARCHY

Anarchism as cult or creed seems too silly, too impossible of serious acceptance so far at least as civil government is concerned to merit serious discussion. And yet, writing on War's Intellectual Anarchism, Philip Marshall Brown, Professor of International Law in Princeton University, indicates very plainly that the very principles of anarchism are interwoven with modern ideas of freedom. "Anarchism of the orthodox kind means opposition to organized government. Its essential features are the abolition of all constituted authority and the complete emancipation of the individual from every form of control, political, social, or religious." It is the demand for the utmost freedom from restraint. It is the extreme expression of the spirit of individualism.

The very individualism which is at once the boast of Protestantism and its product instead of being the foundation of democracy is really incompatible with it.

"The spirit of individualism," says Professor Brown, "is essentially antagonistic to the spirit of democracy. Democracy obviously requires that men should have a strong sense of their mutual needs and interests. It demands that men should have 'a decent respect' for the opinions of mankind. It insists on the subordination of the individual to the good of the whole, the willingness of the citizen to submit to restraints. Democracy shows to the best advantage when it imposes restraints on itself. It holds to the best it has received from the past. It does not despise wise traditions, sound precedents, accumulated wisdom, or piety example."

"Judged by this standard, many extreme individualists who chafe at the restraints of traditions, precedents, the wisdom of experience, and the opinions of their fellow-men, are in great danger of becoming anarchists, if not in the political sense, certainly in the intellectual sense. They have not learned the first lesson of good citizenship—the willingness to subordinate their personal opinions to the judgment of the majority. They have but little faith in Whittman's 'Divine Average.' Their ex-

trême spirit of individualism unites them for life in a democracy."

This is not a plea for the Catholic Church as the sole power that can save democracy from the vagaries of Protestant individualism. The writer is not a Catholic nor is he considering religious claims or controversies. His is the trained mind examining conditions as they are. But it is remarkable how inevitably it leads him to Catholic principles.

"The prevalence of the spirit of individualism throughout this country, however, has had its unpleasant manifestations in recent times. The unwillingness of men to accept restraints is nowhere more evident than in the field of religion. This has been the most hospitable country in the world to religious cults. Freedom of worship, 'the free church in the free State,' has resulted in the creation of hundreds of sects. The desire to get away from the restraints of organized religion, to think freely for one's self, has led to strange consequences. Men of strong personality have gathered disciples and founded sects which have waxed and waned, as for example, the 'Campbellites,' the 'Millerites,' and the 'Doveites.' Respect for the religion of our forefathers has diminished in a most discouraging manner. The religious experience and knowledge of the ages seem to be despised. The harbors of safety for souls in torment often seem to be tragically ignored. The sheet anchors of religious faith, if used at all, often drag in depths of despair. The tendency of this freedom from religious restraint would seem to be toward chaos."

The soundness of the Catholic position with regard to education has in recent years been brought home in a most convincing manner to all unprejudiced minds by the vagaries of individualist teachers. Indeed it is even yet claimed that in the higher institutions of learning that there should be absolute freedom from all intellectual restraint. Of late years this condition is invading the primary schools. In some of the great American cities socialist doctrines are openly inculcated in the schools.

Professor Brown thus sums up the situation with regard to education: "In the field of education one naturally observes special manifestations of this intellectual anarchism. Our vaunted freedom of thought, our sacred 'academic freedom,' has led away from the tested truths to the wildest realms of experiment. The demand for independence and originality of thought has not infrequently resulted in an intellectual orgy. The past has little to offer to such individualists except unpleasant restraints. The cleverest thinkers are those who can demonstrate that two equals one, that black is white, and that right and wrong are indistinguishable. For those who indulge in this sort of mental gymnastics the result is quite likely to be a blurring of all sense of values. Nothing is sure; one is free to believe anything that may not be easily controverted by argument."

This clear headed professor of international law is not, as we said before, pleading the cause of the Catholic Church. It may be that he does not himself see the bearing in this connection of his analysis of existing conditions. But his observations point inexorably to the truth that social as well as individual salvation is to be found only in the Catholic Church.

"Whether it be in religion, education, philosophy, ethics, or law, this attitude of mind is really nothing in its essence but sheer gymnosophistry. It is usually the exhibition of mental legerdemain. A clever intellect can often annihilate by argument the most profound beliefs. It can demonstrate 'that there is no external world.' A brilliant lawyer can save a murderer from the gallows. A brilliant teacher can lead many a student utterly astray. Unless a man has already attained absolute convictions on the most sacred, vital matters, under such intellectual conditions he is liable to go on the rocks. He has lost his compass, his standard of values. He can no longer distinguish clearly between right and wrong. Such a state of affairs is likely to result either in a miserable condition of intellectual anaemia, or anarchism, where one breaks with the past or separates from his fellow-men."

The whole end of our meditation should be to have it followed by good actions, for in it the soul considers how and what she must do to please God and how she must show by her works the love she bears Him.—St. Teresa.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

NOTWITHSTANDING THE bigotry rampant in some quarters, it is pretty generally conceded that the one great outstanding figure of the War up to the present time is the saintly and heroic Primate of Belgium, Cardinal Mercier. His celebrated pastoral on the German occupation of his country, and his other messages and instructions to his people have been read and admired throughout the civilized world, not only for their dauntless assertion of his nation's rights, and the clarity of their Christian teaching, but for the revelation which they afford of his own strong, resolute character.

It was a happy thought then to collect into one volume and publish for the benefit of the Belgian people, the Pastoral, Letters and Allocutions which have come from Cardinal Mercier's pen since the Hun invasion precipitated the first great tragedy of the War. This laudable work was undertaken by Rev. Joseph F. Stillemans, President of the Belgian Relief Fund in America, and the result is a little book that once possessed and read will willingly be parted by anyone who reveres Christian fortitude and admires manly assertion of the rights of humanity.

It is, remarks the editor, safe to say that the majority of those in America who read at all have read the first Pastoral of the Cardinal, but few have read his further writings and discourses. These, although they may not have made the same impression upon the world at large, are equally energetic and noble, and display the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines as the great man of Belgium, in turn protesting energetically, tenderly encouraging and wisely enlightening. The book before us contains seven of these historic deliverances, and contains also a short biographical sketch of the Cardinal, and an attractive portrait. It is published by P. J. Kennedy & Sons, New York, and, as already stated, is sold for the benefit of the afflicted people of Belgium. The modest price, \$1.25, places it within the reach of all who prize the good things in literature, and may desire at the same time to participate in this most praiseworthy undertaking.

THE LITERATURE of devotion has received two notable accessions lately in "The Heart of the Gospel," and "The Heart of Revelation," by Rev. F. P. Donnelly, S. J. Both of these books constitute in reality a profound series of reflections and meditations on the Sacred Heart, a devotion widely spread on this Continent, but supported by few books in English suited to our times and requirements. Father Donnelly has sought to supply this deficiency, and, as perusal of the two books in question will convince, with a considerable degree of success.

ONE OF Father Donnelly's many excellent qualities as a writer lies in his thorough, frank analysis of the human heart. His profound knowledge of character enables him to mirror the frailties of our nature with startling keenness, but with the skill of a physician he applies the remedy and with kindly admonition directs us to higher plains of life. The "Heart of the Gospel" is replete with these qualities, and comes very seasonably in the critical times in which our lot is now cast.

THE "HEART OF REVELATION" carries out the splendid promise of Father Donnelly's earlier writings. Because of his direct way of putting things he has been called "a skilled stormer of the fortified soul." He feels as we feel, talks as we would like to talk, and through it all bears before us the lamp of hope and encouragement. There is no other book within our ken, in English, where you can find such accurate definitions of the indispensable virtues of every-day life, set forth in such simple and graceful language, and driven home with such power. His theme centres in Divine revelation, as exemplified in the life of Christ, and permeated with the love of Christ's heart.

SOME OF the virtues thus defined are devotion, prayer, meekness, humility, penance, sorrow, holiness, merit, faith, love, consolation, peace, sincerity, (a virtue sadly lacking in our day), unselfishness, sympathy, forgiveness, detachment, trust, simplicity, recollection, happiness, justice, generosity, patience, grati-

tude, repentance, content, hope, zeal, promptness, directness, goodness, purity, kindness, earnestness. These are all presented under clear, orderly and balanced divisions. Communion and Benediction, Mission and Retreat, Reading and Prayer, Visits and Thanksgivings, First Friday and Holy Hour—as many and as varied as our modern devotions, so many and so varied are the ways in which "The Heart of Revelation" and "The Heart of the Gospel" may be employed. Messrs P. J. Kennedy & Sons, New York, are the publishers.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

LOYD GEORGE is to the fore, as usual, in the hour of trial for the Allies. In a magnificent fighting speech delivered in London on Friday the British Premier, declaring that this was a fateful hour for mankind, appealed to the people for great sacrifices and more fighting men until the American forces on the battlefield are strong enough to offset the burden cast on the Allies by the defection of Russia and the reverses of Italy. In striking sentences Lloyd George surveyed the situation as the Allies face it to-day minimizing none of its dangers, but declaring that steady progress toward the desired goal is being made by the Allies despite the apparent reverses. He dealt effectively with the propaganda of the pacifists and the near-pacifists, and summed up his opinion of them in this illuminating sentence: "I warn the nation to watch the man who thinks there is a half-way house between victory and defeat."

GERMAN FORCES made a sharp local attack in the Ypres area yesterday, gaining about three hundred yards of trenches in the sector southeast of Polygon Wood, in the neighborhood of olderhoek Chateau. Elsewhere the attack was repulsed with heavy losses. On the Cambrai front German artillery was tremendously active east of Bullecourt. All the signs indicate new and powerful attempts on the part of the enemy forces to break the British lines on the Western front. Having strongly reinforced his army here, the enemy, if the weather permits, will undoubtedly risk a great deal in the hope of securing a victory of some magnitude. Reports from German territory indicate that in spite of the Italian victories there is great unrest among the people, who are facing the prospect of another winter's campaign with trepidation. They are beginning to realize that the armistice with Russia will not end the War as they had hoped, and that a new offensive on the Western front means very heavy losses among their men and kin.

THE FIGHTING on the Italian front continues, and on the Northern end of the line the enemy has gained a little ground. During this fighting it would appear that the Austrians made advances of some importance on the northern front, which at one time threatened to widen in a manner endangering a considerable portion of the Italian line. The Italians, however, had recovered a large part of this ground, suffering heavy losses in the operation. The loss of Italian guns in the great retreat is severely felt, despite the reinforcements of artillery—Italian, French and British—which were sent forward. But the Italian lines have not been broken, and with every day that they are held intact the enemy is faced with new problems of transportation, supply and fighting.

A CURIOUS story comes from the Petrograd correspondent of the Morning Post to the effect that the Bolsheviki intend to re-establish the throne in Russia. He gives a circumstantial account of the manner in which this is to be brought about. In the meantime the Bolsheviki continue to claim victories against Kaledines, Korniloff and their Cosacks. It is also stated that complete freedom for Finland has been granted.

IN THE Cerna bend on the Macedonian front, after a long bombardment, a number of attacks were made by the Bulgarians. At some points hand-to-hand fighting resulted. The enemy was beaten off.—Globe, Dec. 15.

would say apologetically, "Excuse me father, can you hear me please, I must be at Rheims in half an hour." Often he would slip a note into the priest's hand and say, "It is for your refugees," or "your wounded soldiers, ask them to pray for me." One day he gave thus 200 francs.

ELOQUENT ADDRESS

BISHOP SHAHAN AT BANQUET IN DENVER TELLS DUTIES OF CITIZENS

Breathing the spirit of true patriotism in every word, one of the most eloquent addresses heard in the West since war was declared was the recent "Our Country," by the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D. D., rector of the Catholic university at the banquet tendered by the Denver Knights of Columbus to Bishop J. Henry Tihen of Denver at his enthronement. The speaker poured forth an epitome of the Catholic spirit of devotion to the United States. He reminded his hearers of the debt which they as Catholics owe to the government which has given them their freedom and he called on every citizen, Catholic or non-Catholic, to do his full duty toward the nation in her hour of need. Bishop Shahan said in part:

You will pardon me, surely, if on this noble site which may be called the very roof of the United States, in this glorious gateway of the Rockies, amid the purest and freest air the world knows, I dismiss briefly the commonplace of patriotism—great and noble thoughts as they are—the vastness, resources, charm and variety of our national life; its providential growth, the ease and harmony of its functions; the magical force of its unity, the high creative optimism of its citizens: its fair equality of law, opportunity and progress.

DRAWN INTO WAR

Born under the sign of liberty, cradled and nourished in its pure and holy spirit, our country has ever stood among the nations and peoples of the world as the model, the hope, the guarantee of liberty, political, economic, social and religious. Its founder, George Washington, has been held by universal consent as the father of all modern liberty, the most humane and beneficent of mankind. Its constitution has been the model of all peoples and races who have freed themselves, or tried to free themselves from the shackles of tyranny, old and new. For this glorious ideal of human liberty our nation went through four years of fratricidal strife, and waged the most destructive war known to history until the outbreak of this world-wide struggle.

Gradually, almost unconsciously we have been drawn into this universal war, which modern science has clothed with unspeakable horror and shame, and which modern materialism and modern selfishness may rightfully claim as their last word, their definite response of ruin and death, where for a century they have been promising the highest levels of life and happiness and progress. Of them are true the words of the Book of Daniel: "Weighed in the balance and found wanting."

In this mightiest of human conflicts, whose end none can foretell and whose age-long consequences none can forecast, the duty of every Catholic man and woman is laid down by our holy religion. It is to rally to the support and defense of our country with every ounce of strength we possess and with all the ardor of our souls. Already our young Catholic manhood has flung itself without reserve or calculation into the conflict and stands embattled about the Stars and Stripes in the blood-soaked trenches of France, or on the decks of a hundred transports, every hour in deadliest peril. In the home cantonnments which have arisen as by magic from ocean to ocean their numbers are at least in due proportion to our population. Ungrudging tribute has already been paid to their physical and moral worth, to their mental alertness, and to their broad grasp of the reasons and conditions of this war.

CALLS ON CITIZENRY

It is an eminently just war for reasons that have been so fully and solemnly stated by our highest national authority that I forbear to dwell further upon the conscientious obligation of every American citizen to throw himself without hesitation into the defense of these rights, which are inseparable from the permanent welfare of this country. At this juncture all minor differences of opinion or judgment, all local or temporary interests, must be set aside, that the nation may present an

unbroken front in the approval and support of its government, may exhibit that unity, courage, decision, and endurance, without which we cannot hope to make headway against the enemy.

Our glorious American youth, the flower of humanity, has not counted the cost, but has accepted the supreme sacrifice by millions, an awe-inspiring spectacle, a re-dedication of the nation to the eternal principles of freedom and justice, of truth and right, on which the original compact of these states was based. It is now our duty to sustain and protect, to encourage and comfort them by every sacrifice in our power. After all, our sacrifice of public and private wealth, our material help, our efforts for their physical, social and moral welfare, are not worth mentioning in comparison with the sacrifices which the soldier and the sailor make daily for the common welfare.

Incredible sums have been, and must yet be raised, for the welfare of our army and navy, but who will hesitate one moment when he reflects that unless these brave young men bring home victory, all else counts but little in the balance. We should then have all remaining time to measure the difference between the lot of freemen and that of a people doomed in all things to obey an all powerful conqueror, the nature of whose rule is written all over the bleeding and exhausted lands of Belgium, France, Poland and Serbia.

TO CONQUER WAR EVILS

These young soldiers and sailors are the American nation of the future, its natural spokesmen and leaders. Already these future heads of state of the nation are earning on far foreign fields, and amid every kind of peril, that appreciation of American liberty which is indispensable to its survival. It is they who will pass judgment on the theories and ideals, the hopes, plans and opportunities which will crowd the days of peace. War, indeed, breeds evils unspeakable, intolerable, but it also rouses and spurs the best to great heights of virtue, steels character, as in a furnace, and reveals in many men elements of goodness and greatness, which would otherwise have lain dormant forever.

Since modern war reveals itself everywhere, as a mobilization of the entire nation, we men and women who perform stay behind are in duty bound to help as we may. Our hearts learn thus to free themselves from material comfort and security, from selfish enjoyment and the narrow round of our little interests. We rise daily to a higher level when we accustom ourselves to think first of the nation, its perils and its hopes its needs and its ideals.

AS CATHOLIC CITIZENS

As Catholic citizens, our hopes and our prayers are devoted with solemn intensity to the success of our American arms, since the flower of the Catholic Church in the United States is with the colors. For good or for ill, her fortune is inseparably linked with theirs. They were yesterday the children of our Catholic schools, the students of our colleges, the sons of our merchants and our professional men. It may be truly said that no Catholic home in the United States is today without hearts anxious for the welfare of some representative at the front, or about to go.

INCENTIVE TO CATHOLICS

But it is not only because of their personal interests that our Catholic citizens pick up the gauntlet of war so defiantly hurled at us. This American democracy of ours, in its respects for individual right, its love of freedom, its temper of equity, its principle of representation, its concern for the plain citizen, has much in common with our Catholic political and social teachings, and more than one writer has found Catholic sources for the great principles on which our constitution is based. Apart from this kinship, there is the fact of the close solidarity of the American Catholic Church with the American nation, ever since the very year when George Washington attended the Mass in Philadelphia and said for our French allies, and later wrote his memorable "Letter to the Roman Catholics of the United States," confirming solemnly their valuable services to the young nation.

GRATITUDE ALONE

Gratitude alone commits us to the warmest loyalty and to every sacrifice for our beloved country, since in the whole world the Catholic Church had no freedom of thought or action when the United States opened wide its doors to her persecuted children from Europe, and with unexampled generosity made them free of every advantage, public and private, which the new republic afforded. Amid the flames of the French revolution and the insane destruction of the ancient order of life she began again her beneficent career on this earth, with a new world and all time before her and the folds of the Stars and Stripes about her.

TRIBUTE TO KNIGHTS

It is enough to say that while Pius the Seventh sat at Fontainebleau beneath the menacing arm of the Nietzschean superman of that day, Archbishop John Carroll was planning at Baltimore the restoration of Catholicism to its immemorial service and uses among the new and ardent people who then walked at the head of mankind bearing aloft that banner of freedom, truth and justice, which has never since then bitten the dust nor ever will while God is good and loves His children of earth.

Dear brother Knights of Columbus, if any evidence were lacking of Catholic loyalty, sacrifice and devotion to the cause of our country