

or 500 people were estimated to have joined in the march. The different Catholic societies of Winnipeg and St. Boniface; the St. Jean Baptiste societies of the two places, the Catholic Club of Winnipeg, St. Mary's school children and some from St. Boniface with banners and flags were in the line, and the St. Boniface band, La Lyre, discoursed music on the way.

The line of march was along Edmonton street to Notre Dame Avenue and thence by way of Lydia street to the new church, which is at the corner of Lydia and Bannatyne. The building is already roofed, floored, and subdivided to such an extent as to give a very fair general impression of what its appearance will be when completed, and moves the visitor to congratulate very heartily and sincerely the French Catholic citizens of Winnipeg on what they have accomplished in the face of difficulties which seemed almost insurmountable a few months ago.

#### The Ceremonies

On reaching the church the procession divided into two ranks and the Archbishop passed through into the portico of the church. Having donned his vestments His Grace proceeded, according to the ritual of the church, with the prayers customary on such occasions, to bless the lower part of the church, which is to be used for the school. He blessed the cross which was laid upon a table for the purpose; and is later to be placed on the wall of the school. Afterwards His Grace, accompanied by the clergy, proceeded up stairs and blessed here, at the south end of the church, on a platform erected where the altar is to stand with the choir on the left, the corner stone of the new church placed there for the occasion and afterwards to be worked into its place in the edifice. His Grace went around the walls, within and without, sprinkling every part with holy water and reciting the prayers of the liturgy.

As His Grace faced the audience, having on his right hand the building committee, the finance and other committees, after completing the blessing of the corner stone, the following address was read to him in French by Mr. J. J. Arsenault, chairman of the finance committee.

#### Address to the Archbishop

To His Grace Mgr. Adelard Langevin, O.M.I., Archbishop of St. Boniface.

My Lord—We feel proud and honored on this important day in presenting to Your Grace the home and devotion of our newborn parish, this elect portion of the faithful flock which you are come to honor with your presence and your first episcopal visit. In our transports of joy, all hearts are offered to you; and the tribute of veneration which we are eager to bring you is only another faint expression of our zeal.

What a satisfaction it is for our young church to receive to-day its father, its bishop, amid public acclamations and benedictions, a bishop such as St. Paul required, even in the fervor of the primitive church, "Episcopum irreprehensibilem" a blameless bishop during all his life.

We are fully aware, my lord, of the glorious labors of your career, therefore we can at once honor in you both the bishop and the patriot. As much as we, and more, you have felt in the past the pangs of patriotism; for the future you, as well as we, cherish uneasy hopes; and in the present you still feel those thrills of emotion which fill the soul of the soldier at the sight of the national colors.

Thanks to your fatherly solicitude, my lord, and to your kind encouragement, we shall very soon have our church dedicated to the adorable Heart of Jesus, also our parish school, a Christian school in which God will be known, respected, loved and served; a French school in which our children will learn the language so beautiful and Catholic of our ancestors. Oh, how great is our joy, my lord! Truly in founding this French parish, in blessing its corner stone to-day, you raise in the midst of us a spiritual fountain whose waters, springing up into eternal life, will flow by a thousand little channels to all the French families in the great city of Winnipeg. Your Grace deserves that we should set up for you in our hearts the monument of an eternal gratitude; this is our debt; we shall pay it.

At your next visit my lord, this chapel-school will give you some consolation. You will find in it peace and union, honor and virtue, love of order and of duty, the holiness of worship, and the zeal of religion; a fairly well appointed church, a clergy worthy of praise, administrators full of zeal and intelligence; a people who love and honor you; a grateful pastor whose glory it is to give to his flock the example of submission

and of respectful attachment to which you have so many claims.

My lord, may these lively sentiments of love and gratitude ever deserve for us the honor of your good will and your protection. May heaven hear our prayers for you and prolong your pontificate and your years, for the glory of God and for our happiness.

The parishioners of the Sacred Heart, Winnipeg.

Sunday, Sept. 10, 1905.

#### The Reply in French

Replying in French, the Archbishop said he was happy to receive this token of affection, considering it as directed to the Church, and not to himself, an unworthy servant. "If there is a work dear to the Christian, it is the founding of a parish; for a parish is the source of those living waters whereof Christ says they gush to eternal life. The Church is the citadel of truth, it is the bulwark of faith, as we see it was in Quebec. It is an irresistible force for good; and it is the means of assuring a people's eternal joy after securing their temporal welfare. Therefore is my heart filled with joy."

Moreover this church is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus—an additional source of satisfaction. The Church is not the only bulwark of faith, another means of keeping up our faith is national traditions and our language—surely we have a right to this. Our forefathers planted the cross here. They came in quest not of sordid gain, but of souls for Christ.

"We have not only blessed a church, but also a school. What would a church be without a school? Merely a passing institution. By the school the power of the Church will be multiplied a hundredfold. The school will become the vestibule of the temple. Why do we wish the children to keep their language? Because it is essentially a Catholic language. It was the language of great Catholic geniuses."

"I know there are in this great city of Winnipeg numbers of generous, enlightened men, who are able to rise above vulgar prejudices. They know we are men of order; if we educate our children as Catholics, it is to make them not only better Christians but also better citizens."

Speaking briefly of the convent confided to the Sisters of Jesus and Mary, His Grace said these sisters deserve well of the city of Winnipeg by their boundless devotedness.

His Grace further said: "I hope none of you will ever divorce from the Church. Remember the priest and people have always gone hand in hand in Canada. When, for a season, Canada was in straits, it was the clergy that led the people in civil, as well as in religious walks. The Seminary of Quebec was the germ of our first university. In our most troubled times there was cemented an alliance between the priest and the people. The priest cannot do without the people; and I venture to say the people cannot do without the priest."

#### Reply in English

Continuing in English, the Archbishop spoke of the religious movement in the English-speaking world, which he called a craving for God. He touched upon an interview he had had with His Holiness Leo XIII., in which the Pope spoke of all he had done for the non-Catholic as well as the Catholic world. He mentioned the letter he wrote to the English people, etc. And Mgr. Langevin wished it to be distinctly understood that English as well as French were welcome to this Church of the Sacred Heart.

"You notice that we have also dedicated a school—a free school. We have a divine right to educate our children according to their religious convictions. Please mark that we claim no privilege but merely equal rights. We want the same standard for secular education as the public schools require; and I make bold to say that we reach the standard if we are not superior to it, on account of our greater means of securing discipline through the sacraments and through the utter devotedness of our teachers. But at the same time we require religious instruction. Some are satisfied with crumbs of truth, we want the whole truth. It is a crime against justice to deprive us of this right. We are as deserving of consideration as anyone; our past history proves it. When our country will be threatened, Catholic blood will flow in torrents for the empire. No one has more respect for civil authority than the Catholics. I hope you will also strike the corner stone wish others as a token of your wish to take part in the raising of this temple."

At the close of the ceremony many present went forward to the corner stone to take their share in the proceedings of the day by striking the

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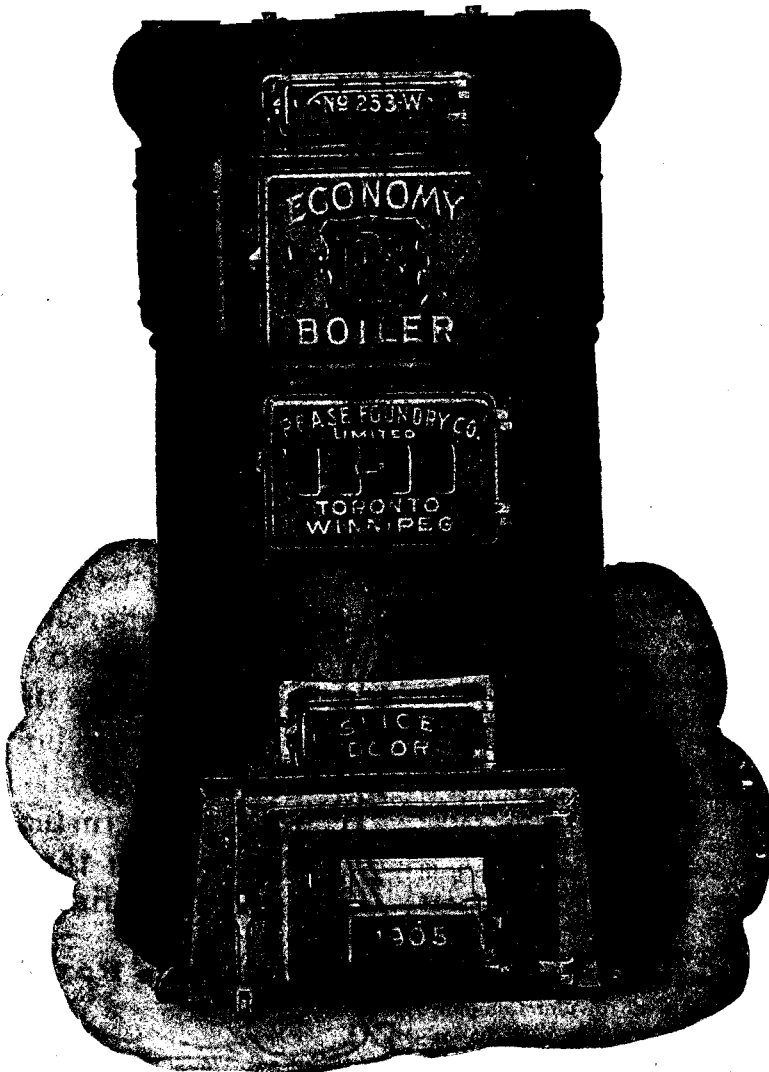
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stone with a small hammer and then deposited their contributions, which were, in many cases, of large amounts, and made a large basketful of money in the aggregate.

The following clergy were present at the ceremony: Rev. Father Portance, O.M.I., parish priest of the new church; Father Emard, O.M.I., assistant parish priest; Father Poitras, O.M.I. of St. Mary's church; Father Cahill, parish priest of St. Mary's; Father Frigon St. Mary's; Father Dugas, S.J., Rector of St. Boniface college; Father Lacasse, O.M.I.; Father A. Chaumont, O.M.I.; Rev. Lawrence Drummond, S.J.; Abbe Berquin, Abbe Arsenault, Brother A. Dugas, O.M.I.

There were also present many representatives of Catholic societies, such as

Mr. F. W. Russell, president of the Catholic Club, of Winnipeg, and many of the members; the president of St. Mary's branch of the C.M.B.A., R. Murphy, and many members; a good representation of St. Mary's Court of the Catholic Order of Foresters; T. D. Deegan, past chief ranger, and a good representation of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the president of the St. Jean Baptiste club, of Winnipeg.

There were also noticed among the prominent citizens present, Mr. E. Cyr, M.P., Senator Bernier, Chief Justice Dubuc, Mr. Horace Chevrier, M.P.P.; also many Protestant neighbors. These were touched with the Archbishop's speech; its conciliatory tone, appealing

to all classes to live together in unity, recognizing each others' good points and standing up to their principle, to live and to let live.

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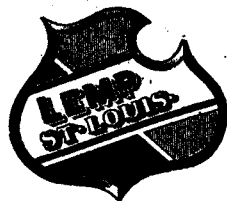
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