

**The Catholic Record**

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUG. 4, 1928

**HOW THINGS ARE GOING IN IRELAND**

The cessation of the barbarous warfare of the Republican rebels has given the deepest relief and satisfaction to friends of Ireland everywhere. The Government has gained enormously in prestige at home and abroad by its firm and fearless assertion of its authority and its effective suppression of armed rebellion. In keeping with its record it has recently asked and received power from the Dail to detain for a period of six months those prisoners whose release was considered prejudicial to the public safety. Those responsible for the government of Ireland may now proceed as Mr. O'Higgins said, "to sift and release the fairly honest and decent men amongst them and let them take up the broken threads of their lives." Evidently it would be a dangerous thing to release the thirteen thousand rebel prisoners indiscriminately. Speaking to the Bill giving discretionary power to the Government to detain prisoners even though the Courts should decide that a state of war no longer existed, the Minister for Home Affairs showed that he was under no illusion as to the situation. These men, he said, struck straight at the heart of democracy and challenged principles basic to the well-being of every modern civilized State, and they had not withdrawn that challenge, but on the contrary, it had been within the last few weeks reiterated. The Minister then quoted from a document dealing with the statement of a prominent irregular, recently captured, who said that, if liberated, every irregular would take up arms again. They had "all their arms safely dumped and substantial supplies of ammunition," and they had "only to lay their hands on them when they were free, and they must get free soon."

A gentleman associated with that movement outside the jurisdiction of Saorstad Eireann, addressing his associates, said the "Republican army was not beaten; it still retained its arms and intended going on the offensive in the winter, and as much material as possible was to be shipped to Ireland so that they would be in a position, when the order came, to strike the death-blow to the Free State. During the summer months they would devote their time to training and intelligence work."

He advised the "Brigade Staff" to work very hard as De Valera was playing a very cute game and was assured of victory.

A peaceful election is essential and, we believe, assured. There seems to be no doubt that the present Government will be sustained when it appeals to the people. The Dublin Correspondent of the Universe tells of the open and uninterrupted campaign the Government is carrying on in preparation for the coming general elections.

"Many wise people were very doubtful of the capacity for rule of the young and untried men, who on the deaths of Mr. Griffiths and General Collins, succeeded to the onerous responsibility of governing Ireland. Now all men admit their capacity for ruling because they have ruled."

"It seems but a very short time ago since the enemies of the Ministry were declaring confidently that its members would not dare to

face the country. But the President and his colleagues are now facing the country every Sunday, addressing open air meetings. A few months ago, Ministers, living behind the bars of the fortified Government buildings, necessarily kept all their movements secret.

"Now their engagements are publicly announced days in advance, and they travel to and from their open air meetings without any special escort.

"A significant feature of the Ministerial speeches is the complete absence of the note of apology. They claim support because they believe that their work for the nation has earned it."

And it is gratifying in the extreme to Ireland's friends to know that the Irish people give every indication of supporting the Government. De Valera has advised putting up one and only one Republican candidate in each constituency. Ireland, it must be remembered, has proportional representation. There are in all twenty-eight constituencies, averaging a fraction over five members each. So that De Valera's hopes are not high; even if all his candidates were elected his following would be less than one fifth of the whole number elected. But there is little fear that he will have anything like that.

Another evidence that the Irish government intends to deal sternly with the lawless and criminal element is the fact that, in the same measure—the Public Safety (Emergency Powers) Bill—that gave it the right to detain prisoners, it secured the authorization of the lash for those guilty of arson or of robbery under arms. Similar measures are in force in England, one enacted as late as 1916. That something more than mere imprisonment as a punishment for these crimes is needed in Ireland at the present time is made clear by what Seumas Burke, member of the Dail for Tipperary, so pertinently said during the debate:

"Imprisonment in Ireland had been turned into a farce, and prisoners had scarcely more physical discomforts than a boy in college or a traveller in a hotel. Imprisonment had been regarded as an honor in Ireland and things had become so mixed in the last two years that it was hard to distinguish between honor and dishonor."

At a public meeting at Clonmel there were some cries of "What about the Flogging Bill?" "We propose," answered Mr. O'Higgins, Minister for Home Affairs, "to flog the man who robs with a gun or who goes out in cowardly fashion to burn his neighbor's house. Is that not good enough for them?" And the crowd approvingly answered: "Too good."

In Cork Mr. J. J. Walsh, Postmaster-General, is reported to have declared that "the country, to his view, needed one thing for the next half-dozen years—that was iron rule, and iron rule it would get if the present government was in power."

A year ago the Government was timid, fearful that a too harsh assertion of authority would cause a revulsion of feeling amongst the people. This was frankly admitted to the present writer by a prominent member of the Free State Government. Amongst the people moral cowardice cloaked itself under the euphemistic guise of "neutrality." Severe measures were deprecated as differing little from the terrorism of the Black and Tan regime. Even though the methods were the same—a baseless assertion of the rebels—there is all the difference in the world between ruthless repression by an alien government whose only right to rule was based on force, and the necessarily harsh suppression of rebellion by the legitimate government of the people freely chosen by the people themselves. Rebellion against English rule in Ireland was at one with age-old war against tyranny acclaimed everywhere and by everybody and enshrined in song and story in all the literatures of the world. Rebellion against the government chosen by the Irish people was treason to the basic principle of democracy and republicanism, treason to the Irish people.

Now a Minister of the Irish Government can boldly declare that "Iron rule this country needs and iron rule it will get if this Government is returned to power."

This indicates a revolutionary change of opinion both in those charged with the government of the people and in the people themselves. Confident, self-reliant, conscious of its dignity, authority and responsibility the Government places squarely before the people the one great issue of supreme national importance. And the people desirous of peace, order and good government, security for life and property, and peaceful national development have so far advanced in the realization of the duties and responsibilities of free citizenship that they heartily applaud the government speakers and give every evidence that of their own free and intelligent election they will choose stable government, "iron rule," and give once and forever the quietus to the forces of disorder and treason that mask themselves in the guise of super-patriotism.

**THE DEVILISH POLICY OF BOLSHEVISM**

Despite rigid censorship our readers through these columns and otherwise have had glimpses of the consistently devilish policy of the Communist oligarchy that now tyrannizes over the helpless millions of Russia. The blasphemous and obscene travesties of religion that desecrated the most solemn Christian feasts, the open avowal that religion and communism are essentially antagonistic in their aims, prohibition to teach religion to anyone under eighteen and the open war on all real religion make sufficiently clear what the policy of Russian communism is and the source of its inspiration.

There recently arrived in New York from Russia Baroness Mara de Lilier Steinhilf, who made her way to America after having escaped from a Russian prison.

This gentle and cultured lady wishes henceforth to be known as Madam Steinhilf though she was a Countess in her own right before her marriage. We may have little sympathy with Russian or other aristocrats reduced to making an honest living for themselves; but that need not lessen the weight of the testimony that this Russian lady bears to the conditions obtaining in her native country which she loves. It is to her credit that it is not the sorrows of her class, not the vicissitudes of fortune that have turned her into a penniless beggar, but it is the real and perhaps irretrievable national loss of Russia that she bitterly deplors:

"There is only one thing that stands out in all the horrors in Russia. That is what is happening to the youth of Russia, and I tell you it is doomed. I know all the stories about the girls being nationalized. I do not wish to speak about exaggerations. Many stories have been brought from Russia by persons who naturally are embittered. One thing is true and America does not know it. The boys and girls of Russia are doomed. And the boys and girls are the future of Russia. Social morality is deplorable. Virtue in very young children is rare. Marriage laws are not sacred, or even respected as a business contract. Divorce laws are even more lax. The Government encourages infidelity and illegitimacy, the idea being that the foundation of the Bolshevik plan is built upon the theory that all home ties must be done away with.

"Expectant mothers are told how much better their child will be taken care of in an institution conducted by the State. The money struggle is so great that this argument wins and blurs the natural dreams and hopes of the freside. The youth of my country laughs at fidelity as something which belongs to God and therefore must not be taken seriously."

**MONSIGNOR O'DONNELL**

It is with genuine pleasure that we learn through the Catholic Register that the Very Reverend Thomas O'Donnell, President of Church Extension, has been made a Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Pius XI.

The object of the Catholic Church Extension Society of Canada is to aid the struggling and sparsely settled Catholics in the West, to make it possible to bring to many the ministrations of religion of which they would otherwise be deprived, in short to supply the means and the men to uphold and extend the Church of God in Canada. It is a work nobly conceived and of urgent necessity. Every mission-chapel besides serving its obvious and immediate purpose may become the nucleus of a flourishing parish in the future. Ground lost now through our lack of Christian charity or mean parsimony may not be recovered in a century. We might in this connection apply to ourselves the warning of St. Paul: "If any man have not a care of his own, and especially those of his house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." Those Catholics who come to us from foreign countries and those who go out from the older parts of Canada, are peculiarly "our own," and we have plain duties toward those new members of our Canadian home. The Catholic Church Extension Society of Canada is the essential organization that facilitates the discharge of these duties, by making known the needs of our brethren in the West and intelligently, safely and fruitfully guiding our efforts to "have care for our own."

This great work so nobly conceived, so necessary, though launched amid general enthusiasm, came perilously near to foundering. To rekindle quenched enthusiasm, to rebuild the moribund organization, was a task infinitely greater than to begin at the beginning. Indeed there were those amongst its most zealous friends who thought the task impossible.

That was the condition of affairs when Monsignor O'Donnell took charge as President of Church Extension. And he achieved the impossible. It took courage and zeal and indefatigable effort; but the Catholic Church Extension Society is established on a firm and permanent basis recognized by all as an eminently useful and fruitful activity, an indispensable factor in the organization of the Church in Canada.

The foregoing considerations indicate the greatness of the work accomplished by the Right Reverend President of Extension. Doubtless the satisfaction that comes from the consciousness of duty well done is the greatest reward for hard, honest and intelligent work; but this feeling is enhanced by the difficulty and importance of the work is appreciated. When the Cardinal Secretary of the Consistorial Congregation, the Apostolic Delegate to Canada and the Archbishop of Toronto unite to ask the Holy Father for this signal recognition of Father O'Donnell's great and successful work, it is appreciation indeed.

The CATHOLIC RECORD very sincerely congratulates Monsignor O'Donnell, and prays God's blessing on himself and on his great work. May this evidence of the Holy Father's interest and favor and confidence so enkindle the zeal for the work of Extension in all Canadian hearts that even its Right Reverend President will be satisfied with the resulting cooperation.

**DANGEROUS TACTICS**

By THE OBSERVER

It is very sad to see unscrupulous demagogues mislead the people, arouse their passions, excite class hatred, misrepresent everyone who ventures to suggest that they may be wrong about any matter whatever. But, everyone goes more or less according to his nature; and it is the nature of demagogues to use those methods; and that they should do so is not to be wondered at. Unfortunately, such demagogues do not stand alone; they always receive support from politicians who have not the excuse, if excuse it be, of being carried away by that sort of fanaticism which often enables the demagogue to mislead himself at the same time that he misleads others.

It always happens that when some social or economic question becomes acute in this or that place, a drive is made by public men in a dishonest showing of sympathy for the side on which the most votes are supposed to be. In such cases all shame is usually cast aside, as well as all sense of public responsibility. The highest political position is no guarantee that the occupant of such position will not appeal without scruple to the passions of angry or disappointed men, if he sees in that by so doing he can win a few votes for his party.

Thus the most eminent public men play into the hands of the lowest and most ignorant demagogues. It is the favourite appeal of demagogues against the institutions and Constitution of the country, that public men have no sincerity; and the danger of that

appeal lies in the fact that there are too many men in public life who have no sincerity; or at least none that suffices to save them adopting all the arts of the demagogue when they think they see a temporary advantage to be had by so doing.

These reflections are occasioned by my having observed in numerous instances public men of position, from whom much better might not unreasonably be expected, taking up the arts of the demagogue, inflaming still further passionate feelings that were already too much inflamed, not because they cared particularly about the men whose interests they professed to be anxious about, but merely as a bit of what they self-flatteringly call tactics. If such acts are worthy of being called tactics, I think it is quite apparent that they are bad and dangerous tactics.

The exaltation of the passions of men by demagogues is always an evil thing; but if demagogues are confined within its ordinary limitations, it can but seldom do any permanent damage to a State. Demagogues become dangerous when public leaders who are trusted and of whom much is reasonably expected, take up the work of rousing the feelings of the people who have been prepared by men of lower standing and lesser calibre for the deceptions of abler and less pardonable men.

It is perfectly obvious to every man who has been at all observant and has kept himself free from violent partisanship, that social and economic conditions in Canada present some points of grave danger. Those dangers ought to be viewed with concern by all public men; and the last thing they should do is to add to those dangers by selfish manipulations or by aggravating excitement or distrust where it exists between employers and employees. But what happens? Do public men of high position take a careful attitude in such cases. I am sorry to say that some of them seize eagerly upon every outbreak of bad blood between employers and employees to play the mean little game of party politics; grabbing what looks like a present advantage and risking permanent harm to the peace which is essential to the future of this country.

**NOTES AND COMMENTS**

**THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CHESTERTON'S NEW WITNESS, AND ITS REINCARNATION**

—If the word may be applied in such connection—as G. K. C.'s Weekly, has created quite unusual interest in English journalistic circles. The Witness was founded by G. K.'s brother, the late Cecil Chesterton, under whose auspices as well as under those of his more famous brother who continued it after Cecil's decease, it maintained throughout a thoroughly Catholic character, and demonstrated that when put forward in correct temper and form, the Catholic cause will, in these days of almost universal dissolution, receive attentive and respectful hearing. For, as even religious-minded men outside the Church are coming more and more to recognize, it is the only cause that confronts the reviving paganism of today with an unbroken front, and the indelible stamp of truth upon it.

CONVERSION TO THE Catholic Faith is usually the signal for denunciation and abuse on the part of those who affect to consider their own wavering cause thereby betrayed. It was not so in G. K. C.'s case—at least not to any appreciable extent. On the contrary the intellect of the English-speaking world for the most part treated his conversion with mingled appreciation and regret—appreciation of his great qualities of heart and mind, and regret that these should be forever lost to English Protestantism. As in Newman's case, seventy-five years before, it was recognized that this individual secession struck at the very vitals of the Protestant theory of belief, and that its effect would increase with the years.

THE PURPOSES OF THE New Witness was primarily political. In its valedictory Hilaire Belloc, who had been associated with it from the outset, wrote: "This paper set out to expose the corruption of the Parliamentary system in its rapid decline, to render men familiar with the Professional Politician, to make all take for granted a simple fact which had been concealed from all;

the fact that public life had fallen to be a network of bribery and blackmail; that the old aristocratic tradition had failed and that nothing had succeeded it. I say we have wholly succeeded in that task." And in re-launching it in its more ambitious form there was no uncertainty about the determination of its projectors to carry on G. K. C.'s Weekly, "with the same high purpose, the same swords to wield, the same walls to build, the same sanctities of home and freedom and truth to serve."

AMONG OTHER greetings to the new venture was this characteristic effusion of H. G. Wells:

"Dear New Witness,—I love G. K. C. and I hate the Catholicism of Belloc and Rome so that I sit by your bedside, the Phoenix death-bed from which G. K. C.'s Weekly is to be born, with very mingled feelings. Now, if it was only Rothermere's last squeak, how happily we might rejoice together. You've been a decent, wrong-headed old paper, full of good writing. If Catholicism is still to run about the world giving tongue, it can have no better spokesman than G. K. C. But I grudge Catholicism G. K. C.—Yours, etc."

That he should grudge Chesterton to the Church is a feeling which he shares with many others, and which if he is honest with himself may have even his own path to Rome. He would not be the first who, beginning with "hatred for Rome," found his footsteps at last treading the pleasant pavements of the City of Peace.

THE FEELING which, during the excavations in Egypt resulting in the "desecration," as some have termed it, of King Tutankhamen's tomb, gradually arose in England and on the Continent, has found vent in many curious comments in the daily press. Men have been asking themselves what the fate of Westminster Abbey may be some thousands of years hence. With this as a text the Morning Post heads a column "Egypt's Revenge," and proceeds along this line: "Britain will then long have relapsed into a land of forests and swamps inhabited only by a few stunted savages. The Egyptians, masters of the world, will have no reason for troubling about such a country. But their insatiable curiosity and restlessness drive them on into exploring the pathless jungles so repulsive to man coming from the land of the Nile. The search is rewarded presently by discovery of the remains of large edifices which seem to have been used for religious purposes."

THE WRITER then proceeds to give details of the resulting excavations as reported in a hypothetical journal of the day, in which speculations are freely indulged in as to the persons and characters of the men and women whose tombs are brought into view. "But the most interesting discovery of all is that reported at the moment of closing (going to press), namely, the coffin of 'Earl Carnarvon.' The lid has not yet been broken, but the cartouches and emblems are said to leave no doubt as to the identity. In a few hours we may hope to gaze on the desecrator of the tombs of the Pharaohs and of the man who stole the obelisk from Alexandria, to set it up on the banks of the Thames. More tomorrow." Who will venture to say that time may not bring about its revenges?

**MINISTER PRAISES CATHOLIC THEORY OF PARISH SCHOOLS**

The Rev. Hamilton Schuyler, Rector of Trinity Church of Trenton, N. J., writing in the American Church Monthly on the subject "Other Sheep Not of This Fold—The Roman Catholics," has the following to say regarding the Catholic attitude on education:

"Another point which it seems to me calls for our admiration is the supreme importance attributed by Roman Catholics to the religious education of their children. Viewing the matter from their standpoint, we must admit that they are justified in establishing their own schools where their children may be taught the religion which their parents profess. The wisdom of inculcating the truths of religion while the child is yet in its most impressionable stage is one which is generally recognized by all parties. Bodies other than Roman Catholics attempt to do this in Sunday Schools.

"Roman Catholics believe that such intermittent teaching of religion is not sufficient. They desire that religion shall enter into

the daily life of the child and a knowledge of it shall go hand in hand with secular studies. Who shall say that they are wrong? Certainly the fact that they willingly bear the great expense of supporting their parochial schools, furnishes the best evidence that they are animated by purely conscientious motives."

**WHAT MGR. SEIPEL HAS DONE FOR AUSTRIA**

**IN DARK DAYS OF DESPAIR GATHERED STRENGTH FROM ABOVE**

By Dr. Frederick Funder (Vienna Correspondent, N. C. W. C.)

Vienna, June 25.—In the old palace once occupied by Count Kaunitz, the Imperial Chancellor in the time of Maria Theresa, Mgr. Seiipel, Federal Chancellor of the Austrian Republic and the man who is credited with having rescued his nation when it was tottering on the very brink of utter ruin, received the correspondent of the N. C. W. C. News Service. The interview was arranged for the purpose of giving the Chancellor an opportunity to tell the Catholic readers of America the facts about Austria's present condition.

The fact that the Federal Chancellor now has his offices in the palace which was used as the residence of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs under the Hapsburg regime, is, in itself, significant of the struggle which Austria is making to recover her place among the nations of the world. In line with the Government slogan of economy in administrative expenditures, Mgr. Seiipel has given up the handsome building formerly set aside for the Chancellor's use, and shares his present offices with the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

It was just 9 o'clock in the morning and, although the ante-room was full of callers, the N. C. W. C. correspondent was admitted first. When I entered, the Chancellor was standing, talking over the telephone with the Minister of Finance. He was reading messages from the Austrian Ambassador in London, Baron Frankenstein, concerning the reception accorded the League of Nations loan for Austria in the United States and England. The Chancellor proves a pleasant surprise to those journalists who have occasion to meet him. Rarely is the task of gathering news made easier than it is in his office.

**CHANCELLOR TALKS FREELY**

When I invited him to express his opinions concerning the present situation in Austria through the Catholic press of America, he readily acceded, saying:

"The request comes most opportunely. Just as you arrived to ask me to speak a few words to the American press, I received the most gratifying news concerning the result in America of our great loan arranged by the League of Nations. 'I am deeply affected,' he went on, 'to see that the same America which has done us so much good for some years past through charitable activity, when unable to help ourselves, were obliged to appeal to the generosity of richer nations, that this same America, or rather not the same, but the America of capital, of sound business, should have decided to take such a prominent interest in our loan after a period of withdrawal from all European financial affairs. The things that lie between these two American relief actions undertaken to help us. We had ruin staring us in the face and our currency and our economic system seemed to have forfeited the confidence of the whole world. Am I not right in asking, therefore, whether great changes must not have taken place in our country to bring about this visibly altered opinion of the world regarding Austria? That same nation, but a short time ago supported by aims, is recognized again as a people with whom commercial relations are possible and which can be trusted, now, with American investments."

**GREAT CHANGES IN AUSTRIA**

"A great change has indeed taken place here. Owing to the fact that the foreign nations regained their confidence in Austria's future existence, our own people have regained confidence in the future. Fortunately, neither the foreign nations nor our own people confined themselves to mere oratorical demonstrations of confidence. Foreign powers have guaranteed the Austrian loan. Foreign capital has subscribed to the loan. An active and sincere reform has set in in this country. Our people have made the greatest sacrifices both by taxation and in submitting to restrictions, often very incisive and cruel, though inevitable. We are economizing in the different departments of the government, both in great and small things. We have diminished the number of our ministries, are pensioning off 150,000 civil employees in the course of nine months, are reorganizing our State railway system which has hitherto piled up great deficits, and are collecting hundreds of billions by our new taxes. Our calculations are no mere fictions. As is attested by Dr. Zimmermann, the general commissioner of the League of Nations, the amount of taxes very considerably exceeds the sums contained in the previous budget. We are doing all we can do for ourselves. Among the ten States

of the daily life of the child and a knowledge of it shall go hand in hand with secular studies. Who shall say that they are wrong? Certainly the fact that they willingly bear the great expense of supporting their parochial schools, furnishes the best evidence that they are animated by purely conscientious motives."

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