

At Ease in Zion or How Germans Pray.

(By A. A. Milne of "Punch.")

An interesting booklet was recently found in a raided German dug-out. It was published in Germany in the interests of "Amol"—which is alleged to be a remedy for all ailments of active service, such as lumbago, tooth-ache, frostbite and bayonet-wounds. One does not propose to advertise this precious specific any further, but the extraneous matter in the booklet is worth notice, containing as it does all, or nearly all, the mental refreshment which the German soldier wants, including two pictures of Hindenburg, four of the Kaiser and one of Bismarck. "Gott strafe England!" and the "Hymn of Hate" also make a welcome re-appearance in it, and there is a really delightful poem called "England's Lament," with the sub-heading "Gott! God! Ugi!" Indeed, one is given every opportunity of forgetting one's lumbago.

But the most typically German contributions are two prayers; one a War Prayer by Capt. Kurt Anker, and the other a prayer for the Kaiser. The latter begins in this manner:

"Dear God, Thou who hast hitherto helped us to conquer our enemies, hear my prayer and—(you will never guess)—and harden the heart of our noble Kaiser against weakening." How it must annoy the Kaiser to be prayed for in this way! "Thou knowest that the Russian in his hatred is fighting against us—(this part wants revising!)—the Frenchman desires Alsace-Lorraine again and is fighting for it."

Having as far as possible brought the Deity up-to-date in this way, the writer of the prayer goes on to make his great point.

"But the Devil lurks behind the bushes, and he is our cousin the Englishman; he grudges us Germans air and light and bread for our children. Within the memory of man he has always set people against people, and when they lie bleeding on the ground he robs and destroys them."

At a political meeting this would be a signal for a cry of "Shame!" But though it is not a political address but a prayer, one feels that the devout German on his knees would pause instinctively, too, lest he sink well in before he went on with his petition. "Therefore, dear God, steel the heart of the Good Kaiser and let him not make peace until the Englishman, this footpad, lies prostrate on the earth."

It is just possible that up to this point the author—Herr F. Eberle; let us give him the credit—genuinely believed that he was praying to God.

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Diocesan Synod.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

July 9th.

Synod opened at 3.45. The Lord Bishop presiding. After prayers the roll was called when 30 Clergy and 21 Lay Delegates responded. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Hon. R. Watson gave notice that he would on to-morrow introduce a Bill to amend Chap. 18 of Constitution and Rules entitled: "The Clergy Retirement Fund."

The following resolution moved by Dr. Blackall passed unanimously:—"That the Synod please on record how grateful it feels to His Grace the Archbishop of Nova Scotia, the Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Montreal, the Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Quebec and the Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Ottawa, for their presence in St. John's on the memorable occasion of the consecration of the Bishop and for the sacred service rendered by them to the Church in Newfoundland in laying hands on the one chosen to be Bishop. The Synod feels that the visit of the Prelates from Canada has resulted in much good to the Church both in Canada and in Newfoundland to realize more fully than ever that we are all one Body, Branches of the true Vine."

Pursuant to notice Canon Smart introduced the following Resolution, which called forth a spirited discussion in connection with Sunday Schools which was not only helpful, but brought forth many suggestions dealing with religious training in Sunday Schools:—

Be it therefore resolved:

- (1) That there shall be a Diocesan Board of Religious Education, subject to the Synod, the duty of which shall be to promote religious, social and moral education in the Diocese;
- (2) The personnel of the D. B. R. E. shall be the Bishop of the Diocese, ex officio, four persons to be appointed biennially by the Bishop, four clergymen and four laymen elected by the Synod;
- (3) (a) The D. B. R. E. shall hold at least four meetings annually. The first meeting in each biennial period shall be convened within one month of the close of the session of the Synod. The Board shall elect its own officers;

(b) That for the biennial period immediately ensuing, in order to avoid dislocation of existing plans and methods of work, the Bishop shall name two of his appointees, and the Synod shall name two of each order of its nominees, as a Committee on Religious Education, to meet on the first day of the Synod, and the Bishop shall name two of his appointees, and the Synod shall name two of each order of its nominees, to act as a Standing Committee on Sunday Schools. Each section may convene separately for its own particular work, but the two sections shall convene together when necessary to promote the general objects for which the Board is created;

(4) The D. B. R. E. shall have power to adopt such measures as shall be necessary for promoting objects for which it is created;

(5) The D. B. R. E. shall biennially

much better with it. Herr Eberle's version would have gone like this:

"Our Father who art in Heaven with our departed German heroes hallowed be thy name and our glorious Kaiser's; Thy Kingdom come by means of the good German sword; Thy will be done on earth by our brave troops in field-grey, on the sea by our greatly-daring fleet, as it is in Heaven by our noble bombardment Gothas; Give us this day our daily bread, if possible with a little less potato-peel in it, and rather more than yesterday; Forgive us our trespass (if any), as (when we have beaten them) we may forgive those who have trespassed against us—particularly the treacherous Belgians who wantonly attacked our defenceless country, and the base English who do not hesitate to shoot at our innocent U-boats; Lead us not into temptation to make peace without annexations and indemnities, but deliver us from all evil and nonsensical talk about a League of Nations; Fore time and ours is the Kingdom, Hindenburg's is the Power, and the Glory is the Kaiser's; For ever and ever if only this wicked nonsense about democracy can be stifled. Amen."

That is how Herr Eberle, given Captain Anker's ideas, would have put it. He would have no qualms; it would not have struck him, or any other German, as an odd thing to do. For nothing is sacred to a good German, the reason being that they themselves are sacred, and above all the laws, international or otherwise, of this world. They swagger into the holy places with a familiarity which leaves no room for awe. They are terribly at home in Zion.

Bismarck said, and the remark is quoted more than once in this booklet. "We Germans fear God and nothing else in the world." He was wrong. "We Germans are at ease with God, and with nobody else in the world," is what he should have said.

present to the Synod an estimate of amount needed for the work of the Board during the ensuing biennial period. The Synod shall determine how this amount, or such an amount as the Synod may approve, shall be provided;

(6) The D. B. R. E. shall report biennially to the Synod.
House rose at 5.15.

EVENING SESSION.

House resumed at 7.40. The Lord Bishop presiding. After prayers and roll call His Lordship invited the Rev. Dr. Boyle, President of King's University, Windsor N.S., to address the Synod. Dr. Boyle on responding thanked the Synod for the privilege of conveying to them the greetings of the Canadian church, and for all the courtesies and kindness received during his visit. In a very interesting and pleasing manner the learned Doctor reviewed the growth of the Church in all branches of its work since the inception of the union of the Dioceses into one General Synod. There are a great many problems to solve both educationally and otherwise after the moral and spiritual life disordered by the shock of the terrible conflict now raging, would be reconstructed and things so thoroughly restored as to make it possible for the sons and daughters of the Church to uphold the ideals we are all aiming after, and a true education, an education that would re-establish all these things by bringing order out of chaos. The message given us by the American Church is at the present time: Men, whole men of body, mind and spirit. The Canadian Church stands for Religious Education as essential to the development of mankind. He briefly referred to the work of King's University; manhood, learning and gentleness being the keynote of all teaching. He ventured to hope that the longing desire that both churches here and in Canada may some day become more closely associated.

The Bishop in conveying the thanks of the Synod to Dr. Boyle was afraid that while corporate union between the Newfoundland and Canadian Churches may not yet be possible, they were united in heart, soul and purpose. He felt grateful for his visit.

Mr. Bayley moved that it be a recommendation to the Executive Committee of the Synod that all missions and parishes be notified that they are expected to pay necessary expenses of local men who may be elected to the Synod as Lay Delegates.

The discussion on the Report of the Committee on C. of E. Colleges was resumed, when quite a lively debate took place by members on both sides of the House; as the hour for adjourning arrived and very little progress had been made, the report upon motion was referred to a Select Committee of twelve from the Education Committees of the Synod to deal with the question and report before the close of the Synod.

At 10.15 the House adjourned, the Bishop pronouncing the Benediction.

Fishery Returns.

The following figures, compiled from returns to the Board of Trade, show the catch of codfish up to June 29th of the present and past years:

District	1918	1917
Ferryland	5,415	6,165
Piacentia & St. Mary's	6,450	22,550
Burn	24,990	71,900
Fortune Bay	29,225	27,855
Burgeo and LaPoile	33,820	26,735
St. George's	2,919	2,919
St. Barbe	7,000	11,070
Twillingate	810	4,180
Fogo	200	11,400
Bonavista	4,409	7,675
Trinity	1,640	4,350
Carbonear	45	180
Hr. Grace	900	1,623
Port de Grave	180	230
Hr. Main	50	50
Strait	9,920	9,920

Following is a list of the vessels with their tonnage and number of persons on board, reported as having sailed for Labrador and the Straits up to Friday Last:—

From	Vis.	Tns.	Board
Conception Hr.	5	243	192
Hr. Main	5	239	59
Brigus	32	1684	823
Bay Roberts	16	810	399
Spaniard's Bay	5	321	211
Hr. Grace	19	1050	627
Carbonear	20	1068	625
Western Bay	7	296	118
Hant's Hr.	4	212	85
Trinity	62	2343	546
Catalina	5	159	45
King's Cove	12	344	58
Greenspond	66	2431	537
Wesleyville	117	4859	916
Twillingate	19	670	125
Little Bay Islands	40	1499	271
Bonne Bay	6	167	43
	441	18386	8650

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TO-NIGHT'S GAME.—The postponed league football match between the Star and Collegians will be run off this evening, weather permitting. The game will start at 7.15 o'clock sharp and a lively contest is anticipated.

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