

The Catholic Record

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Editors: Rev. James T. Foley, B. A., Thomas Coffey, L.L.D.

Associate Editors: Rev. F. J. O'Sullivan, H. F. Mackintosh.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1917

CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHY

The wisdom that comes from nineteen centuries' experience of human nature manifests itself in nothing more striking than in the insistence by the Church that education and religion go hand in hand.

THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE

Our readers in common with the rest of the world are just now deeply concerned over the prospects and possibilities of ending the War through negotiations leading to terms that will satisfy the belligerents, and especially that will satisfy the aims of the Entente Allies.

A REAL MEDAL THAT SAVED A REAL LIFE

All of us have read stories, in some religious paper or magazine, in which the plot hinged upon a medal, a rosary, or a scapular which was instrumental either in saving an individual's life or in bringing about his conversion.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

The chiefs of the Teutons have been in conference at the field camp of the German Emperor. The meeting of von Hindenburg and von Ludendorff with the Archduke Frederick and Hoetzendorf, the Austrian leaders, indicates that the next great move of the enemy requires the close cooperation of the German and Austrian armies.

I heartily respect an organization which meets its enemies in this way, and I wish that all ecclesiastical organizations were in as effective a condition.

With the passage of the years, and the consequent experience of life, with some knowledge of the kaleidoscopic views which pass under the name of modern philosophy, and serve as bases for the ever-changing standards of morality and ethics, we feel ever more deeply grateful that our college course included two years of Catholic philosophy.

In spite of the fact that the basis of morality is undermined, and that the modern scholar asks with the sneering scepticism of Pilate: 'What is truth?' there is a luciferian pride in modern progress and enlightenment which future generations will take into account when correlating the causes of the Great War with the conditions prevailing in the world of ideas.

In view of the fact that the spirit of the age more or less affects Catholics, we have thought it useful to reproduce the foregoing testimony of unfriendly witnesses to the great value of the course of philosophy in Catholic education.

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is avoidance of a policy of mere revenge, an agreement that the war shall end and shall not be a prelude to a war of commercial exclusion, and if there is a determination to set the world on a new basis of relationships, the purpose of which shall be the maintenance of common peace by a common moral and material policy.

The war correspondent, Ashmead Bartlett, regards the submarine situation as paramount:

"There is only one real issue of vital importance to ourselves and to our Allies—can we starve out the enemy before the enemy destroys so many of our merchant vessels that we get below the percentage on which it is possible to run the domestic needs of the British Empire and the burden of the war as well?"

Dr. E. J. Dillon states that even Russia has reached the stage where she must husband her man-power. The two despatches which follow seem to show that the enemy nations are rapidly approaching a basis on which peace terms may be discussed.

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A proposal of this kind would have powerful if not overwhelming support amongst the German people themselves. While it is extremely probable that Austria-Hungary would heartily welcome the prospect of being liberated from the grip of militaristic Germany.

All things considered we are of the opinion that the beginning of the end is in sight.

AN EXCELLENT IDEA

At the closing exercises of St. Francis Xavier's College, Antigonish, N. S., on the 29th ultimo, Hon. Mr. Justice Chisholm, of Halifax, in his address to the graduates announced that he would offer a prize for the best history of Antigonish County, to be followed by prizes for histories of other counties in eastern Nova Scotia at later dates.

Mr. Justice Chisholm said: "I have always taken some interest in historical enquiry. For some years past I have been hoping that some alumnus of St. Francis Xavier's College, or somebody else, would write the history of these eastern counties from which this university draws most of its students. The memorials of the early settlers should not be lost.

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ing hand. Years passed, and he was almost forgotten by everyone in the parish, save by the pious lady who had befriended him and who had never ceased to pray for him, knowing full well the dangers to which his morals and his not-too-enlightened faith would be exposed in his new surroundings.

Some months ago, the priest's mail contained a censored letter with a foreign postmark on it. What was his surprise upon opening it to find that it was from his sometime sexton who was in the trenches.

On the eve of Christmas another letter came, this time from an hospital in the south of England. It contained the information that he had passed uninjured through two fierce battles, but that in the third one, on the Somme front, in a charge on a German trench, he was struck an inch below the heart by a shrapnel bullet, which smashed to pieces his rosary and medal of the Sacred Heart that were in his vest pocket.

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NOTES AND COMMENTS

WE CONCLUDED our comments last week with an allusion to the lack of railway facilities about Verdun which practically isolated it as a part of the great French system of defence, and which seemed for the moment, to the uninitiated at least, to render its capture by the Germans extremely probable.

To EPITOMIZE the circumstances leading up to the assault on Verdun. It will be remembered that when the Germans captured St. Mihiel in the second month of the War, their first act was to cut the main railroad supplying Verdun—the Paris-Nancy line.

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necessity of providing for such a contingency. The highway running south through Bar-le-Duc and St. Dizier, was, like other average roads in France, built on a good foundation, but narrow, and liable to congestion under extraordinary circumstances.

When, then, the great assault began, this highway for fifty miles back of Verdun, instantly became one long line of activity. Well out of range of the German guns at all points, it was filled with a long procession of trucks, described by those who saw it, as a continuous stream or torrent, rather than a line of vehicular traffic.

It is, in fact, reported that the capture of Douaumont by the Germans was accomplished after Joffre had issued the order to retreat. That Verdun itself was not abandoned is attributed to the political pressure brought to bear upon the military authorities. The fall or evacuation of Verdun would have had a bad effect upon France as a whole.

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CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

THE DAY'S RESULT
Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him to-day?

Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along. Or a churlish sort of "howdy" and then vanish in the throng?
Were you selfish, pure and simple, as you rushed along the way.

DO THE HARD THINGS FIRST
Suspended above the desk of a Pittsburgh bank president is this motto: "Do the hard things first."

A BUNCH OF WILD FLOWERS
Opportunities for sending a ray of brightness into darkened lives comes to us often that we realize. Happy are those who are not too blind to see them.

HARD WORK SPELLS SUCCESS
Following rainbows in the form of get-rich-quick schemes is the shortest cut to failure.

BE BRIEF
"There is no business so important that it cannot be told on one sheet of paper," said Cyrus W. Field.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS
THE USEFUL DIARY
The papers are telling a story of a certain nine-year-old boy who has been keeping a diary.

HIDDEN TREASURES
There is always a fascination about buried treasures; be this in regard to the mineral treasures hidden in the earth by nature.

THE HOMEWARD TREND AMONG ANGLICANS
We believe that the following news item marks a point of distinct advance toward Catholic unity.

ROBERT'S LESSON
Robert was insulted. The teacher had crowded another boy into his seat, which was plainly intended for only one.

THE GREAT INFLUENCE OF MY LIFE
A long-drawn breath, a hand moving from brow to breast, eyes lifted for an instant before closing towards the racked figure on the Crucifix.

THEM MOGENE applied in a case of Severe Lumbago
Apply THEM MOGENE to the skin just as it comes from the box. It can be kept in place by a piece of tape or any kind of bandage.

THEM MOGENE CURATIVE WADDING
—Is British made and has won the gratitude of thousands of sufferers. Its merits have gained for it the recognition of the British Red Cross Society, the Royal Navy, Military Authorities and many hospitals.

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He who shuns unusual efforts will never accomplish unusual results.

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First Announcement

We have in preparation a new book under the suggestive title: "The Facts About Luther"

CONTENTS

- 1. Luther, his friends and opponents.
2. Luther before his defection.
3. Luther and Indulgences.
4. Luther and Justification.
5. Luther on the Church and the Pope.
6. Luther and the Bible.
7. Luther a fomenter of rebellion.
8. Luther, Free-will & Liberty of Conscience.
9. Luther as a Religious Reformer.

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Although somewhat increased in price, owing to the continued high prices of potash, glue and other raw material, are of the usual high standard of quality which has made them famous for two-thirds of a century.

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A simple, safe and effective treatment avoiding drugs. Used with success for 35 years.

CATHOLIC Home Annual FOR 1917 BETTER THAN EVER
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his departed friend—a heroic likeness, bearing so lifelike a resemblance that it is said Dr. Keefe wept.

A photograph was taken of the work. It was exhibited to Dr. Golden and other friends of Dr. Murphy, including, it is said, Mrs. Potter Palmer. And all were struck with wonder at the perfection of the model.

The plans for the Murphy Memorial building have not yet been completed. But it is hinted that M. Thomas Murphy's bust of the surgeon probably will grace it.—The Catholic Sun.

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Not Tea Leaves Intermixed with Dust, Dirt and Stems but all Virgin Leaves.

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NOT GOD'S, BUT MAN'S WAR, SAYS ANTON LANG

Oberammergau, Bavaria, Dec. 26. "This is not God's war; it is a man's war. So long as there are armies and so long as nations prepare, there will be war."

So spoke Anton Lang, "Christus" in Oberammergau's world-famous Passion Play, today, on the saddest Yuletide the little Bavarian village has ever known. Of her 1,800 population, Oberammergau has given 350 to the army, including Alfred Bierling, the "Saint John" of the play, who is now an artilleryman in the German army.

Lang desired that greetings be sent to his friends in America and that denial be made that he had joined a machine gun company.

"I have never been to the front," said this bearded man whose face most nearly resembles the features of the Saviour. "I am still alive. Please tell my many American friends that for me."

And then Lang showed his visitors' book, with the names of thousands of his friends signed therein. One signature was that of the King of Rumania. He said:

"Fifty of our people have fallen. How shall it end? I see no end. I see another spring of fighting, bloodier than ever. And if neither side is defeated, then more fighting, with millions being killed and millions of others working so other millions shall be killed, with some of those millions becoming rich in the war."

THE SHEPHERD OF THE NORTH

In spite of the fact that Richard Aumerle Maher, author of the "Shepherd of the North" has another book almost ready for publication there are a great number of Catholic readers, who so far, have not availed themselves of the opportunity and pleasure of reading "Shepherd of the North." In this book Mr. Maher demonstrates his ability to create tense situations and his work was pronounced one of the literary finds of 1916.

The hero of the book is Bishop Alden, a big-brained, broad-minded, generous man, a splendid and wholly satisfying character who will appeal to the reader immediately on account of the lovable qualities of his nature. His ministrations among the people of the Aderonack country whose esteem and confidence he has won and particularly of the war that he wages successfully against an encroaching railroad enables the author to write with much charm. The climax is reached in a forest fire of gigantic proportion which is set by the railroad as a means of accomplishing its purpose. Forest fires have figured in literature before but one who has seen a forest fire will realize how true and how vivid Father Maher's description is.

"There is a secondary plot in the "Shepherd of the North" and one which is as dramatic as that centering around the forest fire. It involves a question of honor, the solution of which requires not a little ingenuity on the part of the writer. The problems which Father Maher raises in this connection and which have to do with the confessional are splendidly treated and lead to one of the most powerful situations of recent fiction.

As an illustration of how the Shepherd of the North was received it is but necessary to say that a second edition was required within a week of its appearance. It is a book that should be in every Catholic library and Catholic family; and broad as such a distribution would be then it would still be rather limited, for while it is a novel of Catholic appeal, it is so stirring a story of adventure that the general reading public irrespective of religious affiliations, can find much enjoyment in it.

RECORD READER.

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—His Excellency the Governor-General as president of the Canadian Patriotic Fund has issued the following New Year's appeal on behalf of the Fund:

Twice His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught appealed to the people of Canada in support of the Canadian Patriotic Fund. The prompt and generous response on each occasion proves how truly Canada appreciates the debt which she owes to her sons who are fighting for the Empire. Heavy as the sacrifices have already been, the Dominion is as determined as ever to carry the war to a successful conclusion and, however onerous the burden may be, she is equally determined to help the families of those who are serving in the army and in the navy. The administration of the fund has been most successful and economic and subscribers can be fully assured that their contributions are being expended to the best advantage.

Fifty-five thousand families, comprising one hundred and fifty thousand individuals, are to-day dependent upon the fund and it is estimated that \$12,500,000 will be required to meet the requirements of the next twelve months.

The sum is a large one but when the circumstances are fully realized I am confident that the people of Canada will willingly contribute the amount necessary for the fund to continue its patriotic and beneficent work.

(Signed) DEVONSHIRE

THE LION OF FLANDERS

After reading Cardinal Mercier's first and second Pastoral.—A. J. O'R.

Great Mercier of Belgium, In solemn words and true, A message sends the sons of men That tyrants long shall rue; And one, upon a gilded throne, Is ill at ease to-day; For though he trample hordes of men The Truth he cannot slay!

Brave Mercier of Belgium; Where'er the mailed hand Doth hold in stern subjection's bonds The genius of the land, There may thy glowing words be seen— A scroll of deathless light, There urge the patriot mother arm Her son in Freedom's fight!

Live! Mercier of Belgium, God's priest and prelate bold, Who reprimanding speaks to kings As prophets spake of old; Oh, may her bleeding Belgium Soon pass her dolorous way; And may her seed possess the land The tyrant wastes to-day!

SOME "INSIDE" FACTS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(By Rev. Thomas F. Conley, D. D., in Our Sunday Visitor)

Open your Bible. No other document or book or argument is necessary to prove which is the only, true, genuine Church of Jesus Christ.

Christ commanded us to fast. He gave us rules for fasting. "When thou fastest anoint thy head and wash thy face, that thou appear not to men to fast." (Matt. 6: 17.)

The Apostles themselves fasted before engaging in their sacred functions. "They ministered to the Lord and fasted." (Acts 13: 2.) "And when they ordained priests in every city they fasted." (Acts 14: 22.)

The Catholic Church, obeying these commands of Christ and the Apostles, prescribed fasting at stated times, particularly during Lent. A Catholic priest is always fasting when he officiates at the altar. He breaks his fast only after he says Mass. Catholic people must be fasting when they receive Holy Communion. When Bishops ordain priests they are always fasting, as also the candidates to be ordained.

No non-Catholic denomination commands its adherents to fast. Indeed many members of such denominations cast ridicule on fasting. Neither do their candidates for the ministry, nor the ordaining ministers, fast on such occasions.

The Catholic Church has never deviated a hair's breadth from the sacred words of Christ and His Apostles regarding the holy sacrament of matrimony. Christ and His Apostles taught the utter impossibility of divorce.

Speaking of marriage, our Saviour said: "Whoever shall put away his

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WAR CONTRARY TO GOSPEL

"I recall Christ's words, 'Who takes the sword shall perish by the sword.' That doesn't mean Europe shall perish by the sword, but interpret the phrase to mean that he who starts war shall perish."

"I would be glad if there were no militarism in any land. Shall poison always be used to destroy poison? Isn't there another method? Cannot not all militarism be destroyed by international agreements? Cannot America take the first step?"

Lang was told how some of Rumania's soldiers said they did not believe in God any more because God would not permit such murder as the great war has brought about. Lang replied slowly:

"Yes, I know. I receive similar letters from the front. But I reply, this is not God's war; it is man's war. Nowhere in the Bible are nations told to murder; on the contrary, the Bible says, 'Thou shalt not kill,' but I know how the feeling is growing among soldiers and I fear the war's bad effect on them."

"Sometimes I think the war is a necessary evil. The world seems to learn by experience."

"I hope America is never threatened by such a war. As long as there are armies and as long as nations prepare, there will be war. Until all unite and agree to limit their armies and navies to mere police forces, wars will continue. Fifty or sixty years after this war ends there may be another."

"That is the saddest thought today, Why has England the largest navy? Why has Germany the largest army? Because of world trade."

"How sad it is to see Christmas—and no end to war."

"My Christmas message to America is my fervent hope that she will do something to bring about permanent peace. I hope and pray that peace of which Christ preached—peace on earth, good will to men—will be brought to Europe through America. It would be the finest Christmas gift to the world."

"As long as people are selfish and unsatisfied—though they have everything and until they follow Christ's example, then there will be war."

"I see another spring of fighting with blood flowing like a swollen mountain stream."

Lang was dressed in his Red Cross uniform and had just returned when interviewed from a cemetery, where he had buried an officer. The face of the famous "Christus" was placid—a picture of patience—but his words revealed his own suffering.

HEROIC BISHOP OF ARRAS DIES

Paris, December 26.—Monsignor Emile Lobbedey, Bishop of Arras, who was recently decorated by President Poincaré with the Legion of Honor for remaining in the city during the bombardment and aiding the soldiers and the civilian population, has died at Boulogne-sur-Mer.

When honored by the French Government, Bishop Lobbedey offered his Cross of the Legion of Honor to His Holiness Pope Benedict XV., but the Pontiff told him to keep it in his name. Writing to the Bishop on that occasion, Cardinal Gasparri, Papal Secretary of State, said: "The distinguished honor which Your Lordship has received from the highest authority of your country has brought joy to the heart of His Holiness, who sees in the recognition of your merits that of those of the Church itself."

CHRISTMAS

WHISPERINGS ABOUT ETERNAL CHILDHOOD

Vincent McNabb, O. P., in America

I like writing about Christmas after the feast is over more than I do before. Besides, all of us who had money and child friends or child kindred were busy making gifts for children before Christmas. I think that we would give to children with greater generosity or grace if we realized that we are but paying for our schooling. The appeal of Christmas is a lesson with full liturgical accompaniment, in our essential duty of childhood; for childhood is not a swift season of life that passes away, but is an attitude of mind or soul that should abide. All the year long our masters, the children, are teaching their heavenly, peripatetic philosophy as they romp in the nursery, or rescue fire victims up and down the stairs, or fly kites high into the clouds, or play football, or leap with a bound at nightfall from the deepest energy to the deepest sleep. But at Christmas their daily lesson gives place, as the old medieval writers say, to a "solemnis lectio," a solemn ritual lesson, with all the romantic accompaniments of cattle and a cave!

Once I heard deep words of wisdom from a school inspector, in a speech he made when retiring in old age from his life's work. As a father might speak to his sons, he warned us younger men not to look on childhood, with its morning color and sweetness, as a mere rehearsal for years that may never come, or may come with less sweetness and color.

In childhood as a span of years there is something beautiful that should endure, and something almost more beautiful that must pass. Keats sang his "Ode to a Nightingale" when racked with pain on a bed of death. We warrant that it was a song he had once heard in childhood, and never again. Only its echoes murmured in his song. Its music, its life, its loveliness had fled with childhood into the irrevocable past. If for no other reason, then, childhood, with its eager eye and ear, should be allowed those sinless joys which it can never taste again, or never on this side of the grave.

But the better part of childhood is not a frail beauty that swiftly falls

FRENCH WAR PRISONERS' GIFT TO POPE

The French prisoners in Switzerland, the majority of whom are Catholics, and who, like all the other prisoners interned in that hospitable country, owe the amelioration of their condition to the intervention of the Holy Father, are offering a beautiful tribute of gratitude to their august benefactor. It is the work of the hands of brave men incapacitated for stronger tasks, and will be presented to the Pope next week. It consists of a tryptic in gilded wood, the style being that of Louis XIV. In the central panel is painted Jeanne d'Arc on her white horse about to lead her soldiers into battle, while the "poilus" of to-day are seen springing from the trenches behind her. The interior of the two shutters are covered with fine embroidery representing ancient canons of the altar, and are further adorned by four bloodstones, admirably carved. That on the top right hand shutter represents the Sacred Heart dominating the basilica of Montmartre, with the words "Gallia Penitentis et devota." On the stone set at the base of the frame is seen St. Louis carrying the Crown of Thorns, copied from a beautiful window of the Abbey at St. Maurice.

THE LITTLE IRISH SCULPTOR

Some weeks ago, Dr. John F. Golden, Chicago, an intimate friend of the late Dr. John B. Murphy, called on Dr. James Keefe, another intimate friend of Dr. Murphy, and told him in substance, that an eccentric little Irishman had been bothering him with requests to come out to his "studio" and look at a model of a bust of the great physician and benefactor of humanity.

Dr. Keefe laughed over the description of the little stranger.

"Pass him to me," he said.

A day or two later Dr. Keefe began getting telephone calls; then visits to his office. Finally, he gave the caller an audience. He found him a little immigrant from Cork, fifty-four years old, named M. Thomas Murphy. Dr. Keefe listened to Murphy's story and finally consented to go out with him to view the model.

Murphy gleefully led him through a dark woods into an unheated, unfurnished, discarded portable garage, and lovingly unveiled a lump of something that stood on a block in the center of the floor.

Dr. Keefe took one look and gasped. Before him stood an unfinished but marvelously true bust of

CATHOLICITY IS INCREASING AT FAST RATE IN SWITZERLAND

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The faith is advancing by leaps and bounds in Switzerland, even in the Vaudois. In the organ of the National Protestant church, The Semeur, a Monsignor Fournedord has been writing a series of articles on the present situation. He feels anxious, for he sees all around him the revival of "Romanism." He thinks this is partly due to the faults of the Protestant system, which takes from the Church its universal importance with its character of Catholicism, so

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