

CATHOLIC ORGANISATION.

Canon Richardson on Episcopal Sanction.

REPLY TO A "CATHOLIC LAYMAN."

I have read without any surprise the effusion of a "Catholic Layman" in your issue of to-day. My paper was written to combat the spirit he displays. I am not given to replying to anonymous correspondents, nor do I wish to begin now, but lest your large-type communication might deceive anyone, I wish to say:—

alpine Club which was composed of good Catholics, not all laymen at that. I know little or nothing about Austria, but "mutatis mutandis," my dictum is equally applicable.

LUTHERAN DENMARK HAS NOT LOST ALL ITS CATHOLIC FEELING.

It is remarkable how much of the old Catholic feeling has remained in Denmark. For instance, on the roof of the very modern and imposing marble church in Copenhagen there stand statues of St. Gregory with a ciburium in his hand, St. Augustine, St. Ansgar in his Franciscan garb, and other saints in the Catholic calendar.

Doctors Enthusiastic over New Discovery.

HOW NERVOUS DISORDERS ARE CURED BY BRAIN FEEDING. Where medicines and drugs and other stimulants have not only helplessly failed to help nerve-sufferers, but also aggravated their ailments, the most eminent physicians have to admit their helplessness after a so-called tonic and stimulants have played havoc with the brain, nerves and spinal marrow (nerve-centres) of nerve-sufferers by driving them to misery. From actual experience, tangible proof is being given to the world of the arvellous results achieved by Dr. Hartmann's "Antinourasthin," demonstrating clearly that his discovery cannot fail to have a lasting effect upon the health of the nations.



Dr. Giuseppe Lapponi, His Holiness the Pope's Physician-in-Ordinary.

SIR C. SANTLEY'S "LUCK." REPUTATIONS HE HAS HELPED TO MAKE.

The two "grand old men of song," Sir Charles Santley and Signor Tosti, are to appear on the same platform at Signor Densa's concert at the Bechstein Hall. It is many years since Mr. (as he then was) Santley "made" Tosti's English reputation by his matchless singing of "For ever and for ever." He has been particularly lucky to composers, for his singing of "The Devout Lover" first brought Miss M. V. White into prominence, and Sullivan wrote several songs for his voice. Sir C. Santley has been heard to describe Tosti's "My Dreams" as the highest type of the sentimental ballad.

TWO LABOUR LEADERS. HARDIE AND MACDONALD BY "T.P."

Keir Hardie is now white bearded and a slightly bald, and says "T.P." in "M.A.P." though he looks a great deal better than he used to do, his face bears the heavy traces of care, conflict, and political passion. The lines are deep as furrows on the face; there is a glint as of steel and of fire in the eyes, and the voice, with its strong Scotch accent, has a certain raucous note as of a Hebrew prophet denouncing the corruption of the age.

LAMPS AND CANDLES.

Lamps were employed before candles. As far back as history goes we hear of their use. In some languages there was but one word for both; and many suppose that the candlesticks mentioned in Holy Writ held oil lamps instead of candles. The first light was simply a torch. Then men improved upon that, and devised the scheme of obtaining light from porous fibre soaked in some aromatic oil. The earliest of these lamps were of earthenware, as well as in old East Indian temples; and the common terra-cotta ones were in general use for domestic purposes in Greece as early as the fourth century, B.C. The earliest candles of which we have any record were those used by the ancient Romans, and were made of rushes coated with fat or wax. The first Christians made constant use of candles, and in course of time the Church adopted them for all religious services. No other light may be used on the altar for the celebration of Holy Mass.

AMERICAN LETTER.

CHURCH AND CONSUMPTION.

"Religious bodies, regardless of creed, must co-operate with medical men if the crusade against tuberculosis is to be successful," said Bishop Denis J. O'Connell, rector of the Catholic University of America, who presided at the fourth post session meeting of the International Congress on Tuberculosis. The session was known as the "religious societies' day."

CATHOLIC BOYS' FARM.

Mr. Patrick Hayes, of Orillia, Washington, has turned over to Bishop O'Dea, of Seattle, a tract of eighty acres of land on which to build a Catholic boys' farm and industrial school. Work has already been commenced on the first building, a three-story brick structure. Bishop O'Dea expects to make the farm support the institution.

NEGRO PRIESTS WANTED.

St. Benedict's Industrial and Missionary Association has been organized in New York with the object of educating negro priests for work among the coloured people of this country. Plans are under way to perfect organisations in Philadelphia, New York, New Orleans, and other cities where negro Catholics are numerous. The association is sending out a circular describing its aims. The circular says:—

LACK OF SISTERS.

St. Cecilia Academy, at Holden, Mo., conducted by the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin, has closed its doors and placed its property on the market. The school has been established for twenty-four years and has always been well patronised, the Catholic Directory giving it sixty-one boarders; but the Order has no teachers to conduct it. Four other schools taught through the same Sisters have been closed for the same reason. This organisation is devoted to the education of youth in parochial high schools and academies, and is engaged in such educational work in the archdioceses of Chicago, Dubuque, Milwaukee, St. Louis, San Francisco, and in the dioceses of Davenport, Denver, Helena, Kansas City, Lincoln, Peoria, Sioux City, and Wichita.

CHOIR OF 50 PRIESTS.

An impetus has been given to the more extensive use of the Gregorian music by the clergy of the Boston archdiocese, who have organised a choir of fifty priests, all trained vocalists, who will hereafter sing the Gregorian Mass at the funeral services of priests. The formation of this choir is the outcome of a suggestion made some time ago by Archbishop O'Connell to the Rev. Michael J. Scanlan, who for some years has had charge of the fine sanctuary choir of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

THE LITTLE SISTERS.

An event that elicited the good will and congratulations of all those who were cognisant of it was the celebration which took place last month of the semi-centennial anniversary of the arrival in the United States of the Little Sisters of the Poor. The formal celebration took place in St. Peter's Church, Brooklyn, where the first of the country some 630 Little Sisters of the Poor. They minister to the needs of over 9,000 poor and aged men and women. In all, forty-nine houses are in charge of these devoted servants of the aged and homeless poor.

Who is "Father Butcher"?

Curious Story of a Cardiff Spiritualistic Seance.

Catholic readers of the daily Press must have been greatly surprised when, on November 8th, they read in the "Daily Mail," the Manchester "Daily Dispatch," and other papers an account of a spiritualistic seance at Cardiff at which, it was stated, "Father Butcher, a priest," was present. Here is the essential part of the story as told in the "Daily Mail":—

SEANCE STORIES.

Ghost stories of a highly interesting nature to believers and sceptics alike were told at a meeting of the City Temple Debating Society last night. The stories were told by Mr. George Spriggs, at one time a spiritualistic medium, and now the president of the Psychophysical Society. Every story he said, was well authenticated. His own conviction was "that spirit communion is not only a possibility, but an actual realised fact."

ST. MARY'S, NEWPORT.

As being the only priest of the name of Butcher, according to the Catholic Directory for the United Kingdom, I write to say I was never present at any table-turning or spiritualistic seance. Yours truly, F. EDMUND BUTCHER.

The "Hurry-out" Catholic.

What an American contemporary describes as the "hurry-out" Catholic is one whom we in this country are strangers to. We see him every Sunday. The most notable thing about his religion is his anxiety to get away from it. His one sentiment in regard to religious exercises is a wish to cut them short. He shuns the High Mass because of its length. He objects to the sermon because it takes time. He attends the shortest Mass he can get and can't wait for the end of the last Gospel to rush away from that.

WHAT IS A FRAZZLE?

"We have beaten them to a frazzle," Mr. Roosevelt is reported to have said in his latest reference to the Democratic Party and the Presidential election. Most people will ask: What is a frazzle? The answer, according to the New English Dictionary, is something which has been frayed to rags. It is etymologically connected with the word "fray." The Nebraska State Journal is quoted as having said, "Everyone believed that the world would plant the frazzled banner of the distillers in its place," while the "Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch" refers to somebody's nerves as having been "torn to a frazzle."

THE MASS'S MEANING.

There are thousands of Catholics who think we can readily attach the exact meaning to every action of the priest while celebrating Mass. We believe we can until some Protestant friend who is present with us at the Holy Sacrifice, plies us with questions; then we find ourselves in the position of many tutors who know a subject thoroughly, yet find they cannot impart clear information or make their pupils understand as they themselves do.

LABOUR NEWS.

COTTON DISPUTE ENDED.

After many meetings and much negotiation the dispute in the cotton trade has been settled by a compromise. The mills reopened to work at the operative rate of wages, and at a 5 per cent. reduction will come into operation on March 1st. About 120,000 operatives are affected by the settlement. The lockout has lasted seven weeks, about a million of money has been lost in wages, and trade union funds have been reduced by many thousands of pounds. If any have benefited from the lock-out it has been the employers who, instead of running the mills at a slight loss, as was said to be the case before the stoppage, will resume at their usual level of profit-making. The game was in favour of the employers all along—"heads I win, tails you lose."

STRIKE-BREAKERS DEPORTED.

A Montreal exchange to hand reports that the Canadian Pacific steamship Lake Erie had on board fourteen mechanics who were imported from the Old Country as strike-breakers. These men after arriving in Canada did not behave themselves, and as a result were arrested for being drunk and creating disorders. They are now being deported as undesirable after having spent a term in gaol.

IRISH UNEMPLOYMENT.

In Ireland as well as in England the exceptional severity of the uncompleted evil at this time of the year and its certain development during the ensuing winter months, is causing grave anxiety. Reports to hand show that in Belfast, Cork, and Dublin the distress is already exceptionally acute, and that in all the principal industrial centres the local authorities are taking measures to lighten, as far as means will allow, the want and suffering which are now inevitable. With this object in view, Dublin Corporation have adopted a report of the Public Health Committee recommending work for the unemployed, the improvement of the courts and public places in the city not at present in charge of the Corporation.

MINERS' EIGHT HOURS.

The Committee, stage of the Miners' Eight Hours Bill has been dragging along wearily, and naturally many of the members are weary of the unnecessary waste of time involved. Decided to send a deputation to the Home Secretary asking him to take active steps to expedite the passing of the Bill through Committee, and more particularly to closure members who indulge in repetition and in drawn-out speeches, and to induce the Committee to sit three days weekly. The sittings resumed on Wednesday of this week.

IN AUSTRALIAN MINES.

Despite her much-praised labour laws all is not well in Australia, to judge from recent reports. At Broken Hill, near Sydney, where a strike has been in progress for some time past, the New South Wales Premier, Mr. Wade, was burned in effigy. The miners and their leaders, including the redoubtable Mr. Tom Mann, declare they will ignore the Industrial Disputes Act, which involves compulsory arbitration. The men are incensed by the presence of a detachment of mounted police. The Labour Opposition in the New South Wales Parliament walked out in a body from the Chamber the other day, and are holding indignation meetings throughout the country against the "Czarism" of Mr. Wade.

SHOP ASSISTANTS.

At a meeting of the Shop Assistants' Union in Gorton, a resolution was carried welcoming the promise of the Home Secretary to introduce legislation dealing with compulsory closure of shops, and the limitation of hours to shop workers, and declaring that no measure will be satisfactory unless on the lines of Sir Charles Dilke's Bill, limiting the hours of shop workers to sixty per week, inclusive of meal times, recognising the many injustices that abound in the distributive trade, namely, long hours, low wages, living-in, unpaid overtime, radius agreements, etc., and urging on all grades of shop workers to join the National Amalgamated Union. Mr. J. A. Seddon, M.P., addressed the meeting.

RAILWAYMEN'S DEMANDS.

At a meeting of the Midland Railway Central Conciliation Board at Derby, a complete agreement was arrived at with regard to hours of duty and rates of wages of goods guards, shunters, and yard and sidings foremen. The text of a two-year agreement provides for an adequate rest between duties, and defines week-day and Sunday payments. Guards and shunters are to receive a day's pay each time they sign on, and the London rate of pay is to be not less than three shillings weekly above the country rates. The men abandon their claim for an eight hours day, and agree not to contest the company's right to dismiss superfluous servants. Mr. Bell, M.P., has expressed satisfaction with the agreement.

LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE.

In the "Quarterly Circular" issued by the Head Office of the Labour Party, attention is drawn to the forthcoming Annual Conference of the Party, which is to be held at Portsmouth on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 26th, 27th, and 28th January. Since the issue of the last "Quarterly Circular" the names of Messrs. Frank Rose, J. T. Brown, and J. J. Stephenson (Amalgamated Society of Engineers), W. Walker, and A. G. Cameron (Carpenters and Joiners), and R. Davies (Municipal Employees) have been added to the list of approved candidates. The candidates of Mr. W. Pickles for Holmhrth, Mr. T. Russell, Williams for Speen Valley, and T. Greenall for Leigh, and Mr. H. Homes for Kesteven, have been endorsed by the Executive Committee.

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CURRENT PRESS OPINIONS.

THE TYRANT MAJORITY. A majority is a far greater tyrant than any king. The crankiest, fad-diest, and maddest of Sovereigns is only one man. He is therefore limited. He also can be removed. Majorities mean thousands of meddlers, each with his fads and follies as thick and prickly on him as the bristles on a porcupine.—"Vanity Fair."

THE ONLY WAY. The world can only be permanently reformed through the care of its children, and mutual forbearance and gentle courtesy are the conditions of social advancement.—"Referee."
STREET-CORNER MEETINGS. Street meetings are essentially a summer pastime, and enthusiasm for the causes advocated by the orators cannot have much vitality when it shrivels up with the first touch of a cold weather.—"Saturday Review."
THE GOSSIPING MALE. Men are greater gossips than women. There is nothing a man likes better than a scandal. A woman who has even the faintest inkling of the thoroughly enjoys talking about other folks' affairs. Get a man at a tea-table and gossip will not be lacking for a minute. Who brings all the latest rumours from country houses if it be not the men?—"World."
THE WAVE OF INDULGENCE. Indulgence nowadays is very much exaggerated. We have even come to admire thieves and as long as we are not the victims of the theft we are quite enthusiastic for the rogue who shows great cunning, and daring in his crimes. He is almost a hero in our eyes, and we call him a genius.—"Figaro," Paris.
OVER-EATING. No hard-and-fast rule can be laid down as to how much we should eat; but it is an incontrovertible fact that the majority of us eat too much.—"Chambers's Journal."
THE TRUE ART OF DRESS. The poor Parisian girl does not affect the ornaments of a fine lady like the poor Londoner. She tells us in her clothes what she is, and not in a despairing fashion what she would like to be. To express what we are to make the best of it, that is the proper aim of dress, at least for those who are engaged in the struggle for life. They should leave romantic and splendid ideals to those who are exempt from it. Too many women even here in England are ineffectual idealists in their efforts to keep up with rapid changes of fashion. These are well enough for the very rich, though there are no good reasons why, even for them, fashion should change so much as it does.—"The Times."
WHERE REFORM IS NEEDED. So many public-houses and the insanitary ill-ventilated, cramped, spicing, dirty, and sufficient, without charging liquor as the cause, to impair the health and shorten the lives of all who are employed in them.—"Saturday Review."
THE LIMITS OF COPYRIGHT. For an ordinary novel or text-book or volume of belles-lettres, forty-two years is too long a life; their market value vanishes before the copyright is extinct. But the master works which are destined to immortality ripen slowly and bear little profit for many years, and just when they are about to become good property comes the Law of Copyright with its abhorred shears and slits the thin-skin life. This is hard, and yet it is just, as that great man of letters Macaulay saw. Society cannot allow a perpetual property in what is vital to it; it must impose a time limit.—"Manchester Guardian."
CHURCH SPOILATION. With the Duke of Norfolk's protest against the sale of a jousting-helm, two years in the making, the Church over the tomb of one of its ancestors, we entirely sympathise. Nor is this by any means the first occasion on which we have strongly deprecated the transfer of the few ancient and interesting relics our churches possess to the museums of private collectors. Not very long ago we heard of a parish which realised £500 on the sale of an old silver bowl, which some parishioners had bequeathed to it. The argument used to justify the transaction was the extreme poverty of the parish, but we do not admit the force of it. A gift of such a kind is a very sacred thing, and should be guarded as a trust by its temporary owners, however poor they may be. We complain bitterly enough of the great pillage in the sixteenth century, yet we are equally perpetrating the same sacrilegious acts as the Edwardian Commissioners and other robbers of churches. We have not been informed that the Duke of Norfolk's protest has proved effective, but we sincerely hope that it has.—"Church Times."