

St. Dunstan's Red and White

Subscription, 75 cents a year..... Payable in advance

VOL. XIX.

DECEMBER, 1927

NO. 1

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Editorial

Christmas

The annual commemoration of the birth of Bethlehem's Babe is again at hand, and all true Christians feel a thrill of gladness at its coming. Each succeeding year brings to us in the recurrence of Christmas a revival of the age old truths, mysteries and wonders of the first Christmas night. In fancy we behold the manger, and with the eye of faith see God, the Creator, under the guise of a little child. What a prodigy of divine achievement, what a miracle of love was there enacted! An infant Saviour, son of an infinite and eternal God, was sent to redeem the world.

We, His children, know His story; how well, and at what cost He fulfilled His mission. No wonder Christmas day holds an important place in the year's calendar. It is the birthday of the world's Redeemer, and round it centre ideal sentiments of love and gratitude.

Human nature responds to the influence of the Christmas season, which with irresistible force appeals to, and

arouses all that is good in man. The Yuletide is essentially the season of peace and good will, a time of universal interchange of good wishes. Almost everyone realizes that on Christmas day Jesus came down to redeem the world; a realization that finds an expression in a general desire to establish universal brotherhood.

There are many favourite forms of greeting, expressive of the Christmas spirit. The hearty "Merry Christmas" is one most frequently heard. The perfect one was sung by the angels over the hills of Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago,—“Peace on earth to men of good will,” which will ever be the typical rendering of the true Christmas spirit. During Christmas, it is not difficult to imbibe its spirit. We greet the world with open hearts, forgetful of injuries, grudges and jealousies; we find as much, if not more happiness and satisfaction in giving, than in receiving, and cherish a warm friendly feeling for all members of society. What a pity we do not continue this spirit throughout the year, and make every day Christmas day by our exercise of brotherly love.

Family reunions and home comings are among the pleasures of the Christmas season; and in these College students participate. We, especially, should be exponents of the real Christmas spirit, sources of edification and models of virtue for our associates. No parade of piety is necessary, but manly fearlessness and a quiet unobtrusiveness should be distinguishing marks in the practise of our faith, and in our manifestation of respect, reverence and love for everything pertaining to it.

Christ, the King, did not hesitate to assume the role of a helpless Infant. Why should we be otherwise than meek and humble of heart, true to our holy faith, and eager and ready to acknowledge gratefully our great Christmas gift,—redemption?

The Apostolic Delegate's Visit

The visit of vice-regal parties or civil envoys are not uncommon to our Island province. But less frequently are we honored by representatives of our supreme ecclesiastical authority, the Holy Father. During July last the diocese was thus favored by the visit of His Excellency, Most Reverend Andrea Cassulo, Apostolic Delegate to Canada and Newfoundland; and at that

time St. Dunstan's was specially privileged, for here was held the official banquet tendered by His Lordship Bishop O'Leary of Charlottetown. Present at this banquet, besides the clergy of the diocese, were representative laymen from public and private life in our province, all of whom met and personally welcomed the distinguished visitor.

The task to be undertaken by such a delegate in coming to our Dominion from Italy on such an important embassy is difficult beyond our understanding. Climate, language, and racial traits make unusual demands on a healthy body, a keen intellect and an understanding mind. With these the present delegate seems singularly endowed. That he could understand our language after such a short sojourn in our country, was a surprise; that he could speak it, was a delight. He brought with him a reflection of sunny Italy in his simple kindliness and genial smile. We hope that his impression of Prince Edward Island will long remain to remind him of the full hearted devotedness to the Sovereign Pontiff in this remote arm of the Church.

Accompanying His Excellency was his private secretary, Mgr. Bearzotti, another splendid type of Italian gentleman. May it be our good fortune to see them both return before their term of office is completed.

Tenth Anniversary of the Armistice

A decade of years has passed since the dawn of the glad day that witnessed the signing of the Armistice. For four long years a warring world made Europe the centre where bruised and bleeding humanity suffered and endured the unspeakable horrors of terrific warfare. Then on November 11th, 1918, in the midst of war's din and turmoil, an armistice was brought about. Its magic powers soon wrought miracles of transformation. The booming of artillery ceased, sounds of conflict became silent, weary warriors sheathed their swords, hostilities ended and the clarion cry of peace replaced the call to arms. At first men doubted the reality of the new order of things, but soon confirmation of the happy change came to them. The war was over, and peace was declared.

The Armistice was the greatest blessing of its kind ever conferred on man, as it put an end to the greatest

disaster that ever threatened the human race. The world will never forget the Armistice. Annals of history will ever record its accomplishments and its anniversaries will always be remembered and recognized. For ten years it has preserved the peace it established. Though there have been petty wars during that time, they are insignificant compared with that gigantic struggle, the World War.

The Armistice has not yet reached that stage of perfection whereby it can cope with war in all its aspects, and the day may come when the present plan will give place to a better one. In the meantime it is doing good work in its praiseworthy efforts to ward off calamity from mankind.

The word armistice will always be spoken of in connection with peace, the peerless and precious quality so necessary for happiness. It is a promising sign that all nations are making a consistent effort to develop the peace mind. It has been truly said that there never could be war unless the minds of men willed it. The sooner nations fix their thoughts and desires on universal peace the sooner will it be attained.

Conferences of, and treaties by men will never produce true lasting peace; such depends entirely on human hearts. When men, as individuals, and nations realize that real peace results from a just and fair balancing of rights and duties, then, and then only, will the Armistice achieve its real purpose. May the advent of its twentieth anniversary behold such an achievement.

An Appeal to Students

In this opening issue, we wish to impress upon you most strongly the necessity of cooperation between the editorial staff and the student body. Remember, this is your magazine, and if it does not come up to your expectations, ask yourself in what way you have contributed to its success.

There seems to be an idea prevalent, among some at least, that the staff should write the whole magazine. Such is not the case. The editors are appointed simply to gather material for their respective departments, and should not be required to bear the complete burden.

This is addressed to those who have not contributed, and more particularly to those who do not intend to contribute. We ask you, why not? If you feel you are able, then it becomes your duty. If you feel incompetent, at least make an attempt. It will not hurt you, and may result in immeasurable benefit to Red and White.

To students who have already contributed, we extend our sincere thanks. You have done nobly, in true St. Dunstan's spirit, and we ask only a continuance of your support. You may surely be said to have played a part in editing this magazine.

To others, we say, awake! Take up your pen for your Alma Mater. Make an immediate start on that poem, that story, that essay, that article for our next number. Hand in to the Department Editors your contributions—a note on an old student, a write-up of a game, a wise crack, a comic verse. Any or all of these will be appreciated, and will receive our welcome consideration. In anticipation of your future support, we thank you.

Red and White extends to all its Advertisers, Contributors and Subscribers, and to the Faculty and Students of St. Dunstan's, sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

