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Editorial

Easter

Perhaps in no other clime is Easter's advent welcomed so suitably as in our island province. Nature every where bespeaks an awakening, a resurrection. From its greying mantle the earth breaks forth to greet the eye, filling husbandry once more with hope and promise. The woods take on a greener tinge; the air is filled with joyous twittering. The lethargy of winter is thrown off. The people's hearts, filled with the zest of life, greet the Resurrection of the God-Man, welcome Him into their souls, and rejoice with Him in His beauty and in His glory.

In the somber season of Lent, in the sorrowful period of the Passion, death and sin dwell heavily on the heart.

But at the approach of Easter sorrow and pain are replaced by joy and gratitude. Our souls awake from sad reflection to contemplate the wonder of the risen God. Like the Apostles we catch from Him a spirit of hope and courage to overcome all obstacles, to conquer all fears. It was, for them, a time of spiritual strengthening and uplift. So should it be for us. It is in this manner that we wish you a happy Easter, that you may be filled with the joy of soul that surpasses all.

The Late King

One of the greatest forces for peace has passed. King George V., known throughout the world as a lover of peace, had used all his power and immense influence to secure peace and rest for this unstable world. His death, at this period of great disturbance, is particularly untimely; for nations are watching each other closely and suspiciously. A new ruler in any country changes the entire complexion of affairs. Today there is need of some great restraining force, to prevent nations, which have built for themselves huge monsters of destroyers, air-machines, and engines of destruction, from using such to annihilate each other. His Majesty had acted as such. He was loved by his own people; he was respected by those outside his rule. His friendliness, his courage, and his whole-hearted desire for world peace had reacted upon the whole world, restraining nations, causing them to leash the forces of destruction at their command.

It is paradoxical indeed that one who loved peace, one who desired peace for the earth, should have ruled during the most troubled period in world history. With the Great War the face of the earth had changed. Depression has followed depression. Strikes in England have caused infinite hardship. Outbreaks and troubles in Ireland, and these never settled, rebellions in India have united to make King George's reign any but a peaceful one. Throughout his reign of twenty-five years there never has been at any one time more than a few months of undisturbed rest. There has been no time for nations to recuperate from the World War. Yet His Majesty wanted peace. He ever sought peace. His only desire was to see the earth free from all danger of war. How ironical it is that he, who deserved it so much, should never see it. There always arose some new difficulty.

Yet throughout all this King George had remained firmly upon his throne. While the crowns of Europe were falling, while his own friends and kinsmen were fleeing the barbaric cruelty of the mob, while so many of royal lineage were slain to satiate the desire for blood, still King George stayed on. His life and his throne were never in danger. He had the utmost confidence in his people, and this was reciprocated by them a hundred fold.

Perhaps the chief cause for the high regard which all people had for His Majesty was his faith. He placed his entire life implacably in God's hands. It was refreshing to find among our modern leaders one who still believed in the old traditions; one who still persevered in his love for God. Such was the late King of England. In all his deeds his faith stands forth. He has done his work well. He has set a high standard for his son, King Edward VIII., to follow. Indeed, his example could be imitated by more of our leaders to the better advantage of our world today.

King George, the peace-lover, has died. But he has not, and will not, pass quickly from the memories of those whom he loved, his people, who revered him as the highest and best type of man to be found in modern times. His memory will live long; he will not cease to live in the hearts of his people.

Archbishop O'Donnell

Holy Mother Church has lost another of her most illustrious sons. Archbishop O'Donnell of Halifax has died. His Grace was well-known throughout Canada, and was admired and respected as one ever faithful to his church. He had travelled somewhat in China and Japan, and there had become acquainted with the difficulties of the missions. He was especially known in Ireland for he was one of her most prominent children. He had been imbued with a zealous eagerness for spreading the Faith: his duties in his own diocese took up most of his time, but he always found time to engage in new efforts for the missions. The archdiocese of Halifax has profited by his being there. True he had been there but five years, but in those short years he had done much toward carrying out plans for the betterment of that diocese. Modern forces, as Individualism, Liberalism, and freedom in all

things, he has attacked. He saw the inroads these had made on Christian thought and practice. He desired his people to see the error to which they led. It seemed that he was succeeding at last, when he died. As a priest he had become known to most Catholics throughout Canada. As a scholar he was acquainted with many outside the Church, who held him in high regard. With his death the Church, which has suffered so much of late in the loss of her bishops, has to bear another great loss. May his soul rest in peace.

Students' Responsibilities

In a previous issue of this magazine we discussed the advisability of forming a Students' Council. We showed what we meant by this, and why, in our opinion, the formation of one would be in the best interest of our college. Naturally the Editorial provoked discussion. It was meant to do so. But we find the most serious objection is that students do not desire more responsibility; rather they desire to escape from authority. We do not think that such is the case.

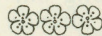
Authority is that from which man never escapes. Primarily, authority is in God, Who created us, Who rules over us with His immutable laws, His stern justice, and His endless mercy. He has ordained the Church to be our guide on this earth, and as such she should and must exercise her authority over us all. The state comes next, the duties of which are to defend our property, to guard our rights, and to protect our lives. So the state must have certain control over us, in order to satisfactorily carry on these duties. But the state in turn is divided into groups or families, and over each of these is a parent whose duties are manifold toward those under his charge. When we leave home for college, the rights of our parents yield to some extent, and are, in part, taken over by the heads of the college attended. Thus, beginning with the perfect authority of God, down to the parent and the superiors at college, there is a continuous series of groups to whom we owe obedience.

In our own disastrous times, we have seen to what denial of authority has led. In the sixteenth century men denied the authority of the Church; consequently, since then religion has become ridden with sects; individualism

became the reigning folly, and has endured in still greater proportion to our own day. Authority of parents is to a great extent passing into history. Modern moralists claim that this is a youths' world, and youth, being naturally clean and pure at heart, cannot but carry this world to the very zenith of its glory. This is a modern myth, but is by no means the greatest idiocy of our age. It has become more popular than ever to deny absolutely the authority of God, by the total negation of His existence. We know well what this has led to; calamitous wars, nationalistic and denominationalistic religions, delirious seeking after physical pleasures. All these can be traced directly to the denial of authority; first in little things, insignificant details lost in the maze of history; but leading to the total denial of every truth.

One who denies rightful authority is both foolish and ignorant; foolish because he will not, ignorant because he does not see what the human race has experienced. Whatever is based the denial of authority is like a syllogism with a false premiss,—it can lead to nothing but falsehood and error. Accordingly, a Students' Council, based on a principle of opposition to, or denial of higher authority, is sterile, is worth nothing. Such a council would undoubtedly be harmful.

On the other hand, students who wish to have more responsibility in those things which concern them directly, could be encouraged. If they, sharing in the authority of superiors, carry out their duties ably and well, and in no way deny that higher authority, then it would seem that such would be good training for future life. Thus in our advocacy of a Students' Council, we wish it understood clearly that we are not encouraging resistance to authority. We merely suggest that students could participate in that authority, with beneficial results both to superiors and to students.



Were I so tall to reach the pole,
Or grasp the ocean with my span,
I must be measured by my soul:
The mind's the standard of the man.

—Isaac Watts.