

## St. Dunstan's Red and White

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### -EDITORIALS-

#### THE SEASON OF LENT

Eastertide brings to a close another penitential season. This period of forty days has been set aside by the Church as a time of special preparation by her members for a new redemption.

Just as the warm spring sun clears the earth of the winter snows and promotes the regeneration of plant life, so,



unwordly make the souls of all members of the true Church fitting place of residence for the Life of which Our Lord spoke and which He purchased on the first Good Friday.

By proclaiming these as days of more intense mortification and self-denial, the Church heeds Christ's warning of the necessity of penance: "Unless you do penance you shall all likewise perish." What more suitable time could be chosen for atonement for past offences than that immediately preceding the commemoration of man's redemption and supernatural rebirth through Christ's death and resurrection?

All communal devotion and liturgical prayer in these days are so constituted as to recall most efficaciously to our minds the love of the Incarnate Son of God for mankind. Man's soul is naturally responsive to an ever benevolent God. Who then pours forth His graces to the faithful. This consciousness of new life must necessarily induce in those who partake of it a realization of the value of true penance and a resolution to continue on the path which alone gives peace and contentment.

Never, then, should the life blood of the branches of the Vine flow more freely than on Easter morning, for then, of all times throughout the year, Christ is most intimately united with the members of His Church.

May the commemoration of the most blessed event in mankind's history bring joy to all our readers.

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#### STUDENTS' OFFICE

Many times, no doubt, the idea of opening an office to serve student needs must have occurred to former students; but for one reason or another the plan failed to reach the stage of execution. This time the idea was acted upon and the office became a reality.

Its story is brief, yet, we hope, of some interest, at least to former students. Last September, representatives from the various student organizations agreed that the time was opportune to act. A room on the fourth corridor of Dalton Hall (once intended as a Prefect's aerie) was selected for the proposed office. Two adjoining rooms were also obtained for the storage of athletic and other equipment.



As the office was to serve all student organizations, the project was undertaken as a cooperative enterprise. Carpenters, painters, and interior decorators were found in the student ranks, and all signified their willingness to help in making the rooms habitable and attractive. Thanks to the many willing hands, it was but a few weeks until the office was freshly painted, had a new marbolem floor and drapes for the windows, and was furnished with such equipment as is found in an up-to-date office.

Although there are no written rules regarding its occupation or use, there is an understanding that all student organizations shall have equal privileges in it and that its properties shall be a matter of common ownership among them. Each organization is encouraged to use the office as much as possible for its business.

During the past few years there has been a noticeable improvement in the matter of records and bookkeeping by the students of St. Dunstan's. It is well that this trend should have preceded the opening of the new office since it facilitates the further adjustment to an office system.

The office introduces students to office equipment previously unknown to them and to methods of office procedure formerly both unknown and unavailable to them, and makes for the systematic practice of keeping accounts and preserving records. Moreover there is the satisfaction of doing business in a business atmosphere. Herein is to be found a valuable extra in the way of education.

It is not to be denied that much satisfaction was experienced through the initiative displayed in this latest student venture, and we hope that further expression of that same initiative will manifest itself in other departments of college life.

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#### PAPAL AUTHORITY

A quarter of a century ago the world welcomed the close of a world war. The settlement of the international differences of that time has since been the object of criticism, which it would seem has been more or less justified. One criticism, however, reached the point of unreasonableness, at times, especially at the outbreak of the present conflict; that is a complaint about the absence of the Pope's re-



representatives from the peace table of 1919. Condemnations of this situation as a grave political mistake and cries for papal interference in times of crises betrayed seriously false notions of the Pope's powers as an international and political consultant. It is true also that there are many who fail to make the proper distinctions between papal pronouncements that are infallible and those that are not. For this reason, they attribute to the Pope practically unbounded power over members of the Church and over States.

In anticipation of an early conclusion of hostilities in Europe peace talks are in progress and peace conferences are being scheduled. A definition at this time of the part it is possible for the papacy to play in peace conferences of the future would be a guide to more sane decisions on the part of many.

The Pope's kingship is spiritual not temporal. The value of his counsel at a peace table arises from his being the head of a world organization, the Catholic Church. In his solicitude for the spiritual welfare of his people of all nations, he has come inevitably to a knowledge of their temporal and political problems. The spiritual and temporal are entirely distinct, yet interrelated. Who, except one in such a position of neutrality, could be more unbiased in international controversy than he? His authority arises from the universality of his view. As his mission is spiritual, his counsel is naturally free from all selfish and worldly motives. And self-interest is the undermining force of peace settlements.

Whence the misunderstanding and false outlook? The value of the Pope's opinion concerning any national boundary is proportional to his knowledge of the facts and, of course, to sound judgement. But when the Pope in the past century defined the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception all Catholics were bound to accept that truth with as strong a faith as they accept the truth of Christ's Incarnation. Such truths have existed from the beginning, but their universal and absolute acceptance has been made necessary by the rise of heretical and unorthodox teaching. Thus we have papal definitions at different times in Church history. Papal definitions in matters of faith and morals are infallible; papal opinions regarding secular matters are not.

A bishop may denounce any teaching or practice within his diocese that is against the welfare of his people. The



admonitions contained in papal encyclical letters are of this nature. For the most part, they are clear and brief statements of the dictates of the natural and moral law and, as such, are binding on all endowed with right reason, although they are not strictly-speaking infallible teaching. May future peace conferences benefit from the counsel of the papacy, but let us remember that in this counsel there is no exercise of infallible power.

## COLLEGE CHRONICLE

*Red and White* offers sincere felicitations to: Rt. Rev. J. A. Murphy, D.D., former rector of Saint Dunstan's and now pastor of Kinkora parish, on his having attained the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood and wishes him many long years of health and happiness. Also, to Rev. R. R. St. John, Vice-President of the Catholic Church Extension Society, who was ordained with Monsignor Murphy twenty-five years ago. Congratulations.

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*Red and White* extends sincere sympathy to:

Very Reverend R. V. McKenzie, rector of St. Dunstan's College, on the death of his sister.

Rev. G. A. MacDonald on the death of his father.

Mr Clark MacAulay on the death of his mother.

The relatives of George McKenna. George was a popular member of the graduating class of 1942.

The wife and family of the late John Callaghan. Mr Callaghan was one of St. Dunstan's former students.

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Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved families of the former students who have made the supreme sacrifice:

Flying Officer Joseph McIvor, R.C.A.F.

Sgt. John W. MacAulay, R.C.A.

Lt. Roy Silliphant, R.C.A.

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*Red and White* extends felicitations to Rev. Gavin P. Monaghan, Ph. D., Paed. D., formerly a member of our staff and now superintendent of Catholic schools in the diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, U.S.A., on his being the recipient of a doctorate in pedagogy from Laval University.