

How Ryan "Made Good."

These facts concerning the character of Thomas Fortune Ryan, the Catholic multi-millionaire, have impressed those who know him best:

Systematic organization. Power of persuasion. Mental concentration. Capacity for instant and decisive action.

Silence, secrecy and art of using great power behind the throne.

Ryan was born in Blue Ridge, Va., in 1851, and when he was 18 years of age he was clerking in a store at Baltimore.

Money came his way as by magic.

By what means he got his money does not minimize the fact that he has it and that he made it through his own ingenuity, brain power, and unrelenting attack on those who opposed his progress.

What Makes Unhappy Marriages.

"The most frequent theme of the modern play and novel is married life. And so it always was," says the reverend author of a recent work on marriage and divorce.

But whereas in our father's day plays and novels ended with marriage and happiness, now they more often commence with marriage and misery, and frequently end with divorce and adultery.

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Visiting.

Did you ever notice the difficulties some people have when they make you what is formally called a "visit?"

But when they come and find that some how they have a notion of visiting that doesn't pan out. As they haven't seen you for years they hold to the idea that they are under obligations to sit down in the house and talk.

Have you ever seen them for a long deferred visit? Then why should they waste any time for they have so much to talk about?

The trouble is that acquaintance-ship, like happiness, is a sort of by-product of work. If a man devotes himself to pleasure he doesn't get it.

Women visit satisfactorily while they are "doing up the work." Men can renew old acquaintanceship while going to the "show," or tramping about the new station site.

Crabbed Tempers.

It is a very remarkable fact, but nearly everybody who has a bad temper admits the fact with the greatest pride.

Many of these people regard a crabbed temper as a sign of authority of masterful ways, and look upon it as a means of getting what they want in life.

I have known many women, with a very fine quality in their makeup, who feel that they can frighten their husbands, children or even their parents into doing what they probably unreasonably desire by a display of temper.

But these same women little realize that they get what they want not so much through fear but because those who are fond of them dread an exhibition of temper.

Aside from the moral side of such a condition, there is the physical side, which no woman can afford to disregard. One fit of temper will add many lines in a woman's face; it will deplete her nervous system and her blood boiling.

Argentine Catholicity.

Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic, has a population of one and a half million. It is a beautiful city, and is called the Paris of America on that account.

Advent.

The voice of Advent is the voice of John the Baptist crying in the wilderness. "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight His paths," and the spirit of repentance in the response that is sought for in every Christian soul.

The Test that Tells.

The following editorial which appeared in a recent issue of the Houston (Texas) Daily News speaks for itself:

"Without any design to make invidious distinction between the work accomplished by each for (Christian civilization, we believe the statement will not be contested that to the Roman Catholic Church we owe everything which has saved the world to the Christian ideal which all alike cherish."

Christmas Presents.

Dear M. L., there is no such thing as a must about a Christmas gift. If ever there is a time when one should give spontaneously and because one wishes to give concrete evidence of one's appreciation and good will, and for no other reason, it's at Christmas.

But that's quite another matter from begging one's self, going without needed clothing, or leaving one's bills unpaid in order to give presents to people already over-burdened with things.

The first rule about gifts at any time is: don't give unless you really want to give. A forced gift is usually an indication of cowardice.

Another rule about giving is not to give where a gift may embarrass or be misunderstood. Juliet's employer has been uncommonly kind and considerate. He has overlooked mistakes and pointed out ways of improvement.

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Food Responsible for One's Ills.

Do you ever get the "blues," feel morbid or out of sorts without any reason?

What do you suppose is the cause? A prominent physician says that more people suffer from physical weakness, depression, the "blues" and poor health generally because of overeating than because of eating too little.

That the average American eats too much meat.

Vegetables for instance, such as peas, beans, and lentils, or eggs and milk products, such as cheese and butter-milk.

There would be less people bothered with "moods" if they would eat and live sanely. Take the case of a woman with whom I recently conversed on the subject of high cost of living might be dwelt on profitably.

Her husband receives a salary of only \$75 a month.

Her husband receives a salary of only \$75 a month. They have no children. Read her own words: "Of course, \$75 is not much, especially for people who are accustomed to a great deal better living than that affords, but we want to be independent, and we are that and much more."

"How do you do it?" I asked. "At the beginning," she explained, "we sat down and figured out accurately a schedule of expenses."

"So much for the good judgment of a couple of wholesome young Americans."

"Of course, food commodities are selling at higher prices. No one can deny that. But is that not largely due to our rapidly growing population and also to the fact that many of our newer citizens, unaccustomed to our ways and activities, are mere consumers producing nothing?"

Surely it is not unreasonable to conclude that this problem, to a material extent has been created by waste and extravagance.

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THE CASKET,

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1912

LIQUOR LAWS.

All the laws respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors have met with certain obstacles. We are not, at this moment, taking up the question which kind of law is the better for the purpose of dealing with this great and lamentable evil.

The first is the lack of willingness to obey the law. We do not entertain any fanatical hatred of the liquor dealers; but facts which are in the common knowledge of all men could not be hidden if we were their most ardent friends.

The liquor sellers of Nova Scotia have never, as a class, obeyed the Scott Act; or the Liquor License Act when it was in force; or the new Prohibition Act; and whether one of these laws, or any one of fifty more that might be made, should be in force in the future, the liquor sellers, as a class, would decline to obey.

We have, therefore, at the outset, to recognize the fact that we have, in Nova Scotia, a class of men who stand ready, and not only ready, but determined, to break any law that may be made on this subject.

And not only have we a class of people now in the trade who are resolved to recognize no legal obligations in this matter; but we have a very large proportion of men in our population who are disposed to ask and encourage them to break the law.

This is a serious feature of the situation. Next to the sin and shame and poverty, the loss of money, energy, opportunity; the deficit in manhood; the shortage in constructive work; which follow on the lamentable custom of selling, buying and drinking of intoxicants, this is the most serious feature of the whole situation.

The Summary Convictions Act is the chief case-maker; and it is tagged on to every penal statute in the statute books. If it is a Dominion Act, we have the Summary Convictions clauses of the Criminal code; if a Nova Scotia Act, we have the Nova Scotia Summary Convictions Act; and, be it a Statute against smuggling, or against illicit stills, or to protect the mails, or the fisheries, or the mines, or against liquor selling, or bribery, or elections, or what not, there is always one of our old friends, the Dominion or Nova Scotia Summary Convictions Acts waiting for us.

The citizens of this class have consciences in other affairs; but they have none on this subject; and the fact must be recognized when we are discussing the chances of doing better

with one kind of law or another. They take the easy ground that they are not their brother's keepers; and that, even though the evil be recognized as a national one, and a subject on which it is necessary to make laws for the general protection of the people; they have no duty as individuals in the matter.

We are not, herein, arguing for the retention of the Prohibition Act. We are disposed to favor regulation by license. However, if we believed, as many of our Protestant friends do, that license is in itself sinful, because the trade is in itself sinful, and because you cannot license sin save by adding one sin to another, then we should oppose license.

We are merely pointing out the conditions surrounding the question. We are told, from time to time, that public opinion is not in favor of the Scott Act; not in favor of Prohibition; is against this sort of law; would back up the other sort of law.

Another difficulty is that there is no determination, in the case of many of the county and town councils, to enforce any liquor law. Some of the rulers of these counties and towns may imagine that they would enforce a License Act, if they had one; but enforcement has not been the order of the day in all license counties in the Province in the past.

When the Prohibition Act came in force in 1910, we said to our readers that its success depended on the manner in which it was enforced by the county and town authorities.

They have for the most part dealt with it, up to the present date, in a manner which has added one more to the long list of farces played in this Province in the name of temperance.

The Act is not in itself an ineffective. But nonsense of that kind has been talked for years. We used to be told that the Scott Act had given rise to a vast quantity of litigation.

This statement is absolutely correct. The litigation was on the Summary Convictions Act, and the Law of Evidence; on the former in the higher courts; on the latter in the Magistrates' courts.

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"Your worship," says the learned counsel, to a magistrate who, very often, may be taken to be opposed to "radical" legislation anyhow, "Daily's

Magistrate's Manual quotes the decision of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, that, on a fair construction of Section — of the Summary Convictions Act, the magistrate has no jurisdiction under such circumstances as the present."

Score one more for the Summary Convictions Act; and if gentlemen who are anxious to understand what is wrong with our liquor laws want to find out one of the chief things that prevents results, let them examine any reliable manual for Magistrates, or Mr. Tremear's work on "The Liquor Laws of Canada."

All these reflections do not necessarily lead to a conclusion in favor of retaining the Prohibition Act. We feel very strongly that, in the present state of society, and in the present condition of the public conscience, hardened as so many are to the everyday sights and sounds of the horrid trade and the almost equally horrid custom of drinking, all we can hope for is regulation.

This is not, in our opinion, an excuse for non-enforcement of the law we now have. It was not an excuse for not enforcing the laws we formerly had so far as enforcement can be carried; and that is many miles further than it has been honestly tried to carry it.

We fear the same apathy of some; the same self-indulgence of some; the same "not-my-brother's-keeper" excuse of some, the deep determination to sell liquor lawfully or unlawfully of some, the same resolute determination to drink it wherever it can be had of some, will hamper and hinder a License Law from being enforced.

Conscience cannot be created by Act of Parliament. But, if we can only have regulation even under the name of Prohibition, surely it would be better to have it under its own name. We feel very strongly that if Prohibition cannot be accomplished under the name of Prohibition, still less can it be accomplished under the name of regulation or license.

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We shall return to this subject.

Our London Letter.

LONDON, Nov. 27th, 1912.

THE SALESIAN IN LONDON.

The Salesian jubilee celebrations at Battersea on Sunday were somewhat marred by a double disappointment. At first it had been arranged that Bishop Amigo of Southwark would be present and preach the sermon on the memorable occasion, but the engagement was cancelled owing to His Lordship's continued absence in Rome.

The terrific gale of wind and rain which has been blowing for the past three days somewhat lessened the numbers of visitors to Norfolk House, where the Duchess of Norfolk and Lady Edmund Talbot were holding a drawing room sale in aid of the East end Settlement of the latter lady.

various impromptu stalls of the specious apartment, chief amongst them being delightful pottery ware, Italian intaglios and old lace. The little Earl of Arundel and Lady Rachel Howard were busy handing cakes to the guests who were entertained to tea by the Duchess.

SACRED FILM PROHIBITED.

A remarkable decision has been given by the Liverpool Magistrates who have refused to license the new cinematograph representation of Our Lord's life called "From Manger to Cross" in that City. A great deal of diversified opinion was shown by the various religious bodies represented at the enquiry, and a letter was read from Archbishop Whiteside of Liverpool, which stated the representation was perfectly reverent and was in his opinion calculated to impress those who witnessed it.

LINKS WITH THE MARTYRS.

A solemn Triduum is being held this week in honour of the English Martyrs at Tyburn Convent. This beautiful, if miniature, sanctuary where perpetual adoration is practised by a community of exiled French nuns is as you may remember situated almost on the very spot where once stood the gallows on which so many brave priests and laymen suffered for the Faith.

WITH AMUNDSEN TO THE POLE.

The lectures given in London and at Edinburgh by the hero of the South Pole, Capt. Amundsen, under the auspices of the Royal Scottish and English Geographical Society and the Lecture Agency, drew crowds of distinguished visitors, amongst whom were Sir Ernest Shackleton, Sir Clements Markham, and other well known explorers past and present.

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