

has passed triumphantly through Parliamentary shoals and quicksands and reached the safe harbor of a third reading. So the race is now assured. French experts concur with the British in the view that an excellent venue has been selected. If the roads are in some parts of the course narrow and the curves sharp the reliability as well as the speed of the car will be the more effectively tested. The race will undoubtedly bring motors and motorists apart from the racing machines in this country. It will mean money to many industries. But perhaps the greatest advantage of all will be the stimulus afforded to the scientific making and mending of roads.

Lord Rosebery's Views

Speaking at Paisley Lord Rosebery said that in a speech at Paisley 17 years ago he urged that Ireland should be treated as they would treat England, placing her on the same footing with regard to local government and the like, and if they made any difference making a difference in the matter of generosity on account of Ireland's long suffering and ancient oppression. The policy he then ventured to advocate was now being carried out. The main causes of the Liberal party's failure in the present to impress the country with itself were not those two questions of Ireland and Empire of which he treated in 1895, and, therefore, it was not difficult to reflect whether it would not be possible when the hour of power might be approaching to frame a policy which was not necessarily that which suited the country 12 years ago. His Lordship advocated some strong reconsideration of policy, some new methods and fresher ideals to enable the Party not merely to acquire greater strength, but to be in a position of more sympathy with the country.

A Challenge

Speaking at Bradford recently, Mr. Wanklyn, M.P., said the action of Sir George Bartley, Lord Hugh Cecil, and Mr. Ian Malcolm, in the matter of the writ for Galway, was contemptible. All their mandarins had joined hands to prosecute Colonel Lynch for treason, but they had neither the moral nor the political courage to proceed against Professor Bryce for sedition. Lawyers of good standing had given it as their opinion that Professor Bryce, in publishing in a foreign journal in December, 1899, during the war, an article which contained an indictment of his country—an appeal for the intervention of foreign Powers, and an incitement to the Dutch of the Cape to rise—had undoubtedly been guilty of a serious act of sedition. The Lord Chief Justice had said that of late years there had been too much belittling of treason and sedition, and last week he (Mr. Wanklyn) had demanded of the Cabinet that they should either institute proceedings against Professor Bryce or release Mr. Lynch. Let it not be said there was one law for rich and powerful and another for poor and obscure. Justice should be impartially administered.

Railway Reform

The debate initiated by Mr. O'Mara in the House of Commons on the question of railway rates in Ireland elicited a very significant statement from Mr. Wyndham. The Chief Secretary fully acknowledged the vast importance of the subject, and in effect gave a pledge that as soon as the land controversy was finally settled (which he hoped would be at once) the Government would deal with the question of railway rates in Ireland. His pronouncement was, of course, a guarded one, but he gave it to be understood that he is inclined to favor a scheme by which the rates would be automatically and compulsorily reduced and the railway companies be guaranteed a certain dividend until the reduced rates will bring about a volume of traffic sufficient to pay the usual dividend. Such a reform would, needless to say, be of incalculable value to the trade and industries of Ireland.

A Step towards Home Rule

Mr. John Morley, M.P., speaking at Montrose last week, protested against the cost of militarism and the spendthrift, demoralising extravagance of the Government, which he declared was extraordinary. The new Irish Land Bill was a confession that the resolute government of Ireland was an abject failure. He agreed with Mr. J. F. Redmond, M.P., that the settlement of the land question would be an enormous step towards Home Rule.

A Praiseworthy Scheme

Through the instrumentality of Mr. Joseph Maguire, barrister-at-law, a praiseworthy scheme has been set on foot for the maintenance and training of a number of girls from the congested districts for domestic service in Ireland. The idea was started by a philanthropic lady, who does not wish her name to be disclosed; and at her request Mr. Maguire is publicly identifying himself with the project and will superintend its initiation. The founders of the home is a lady of independent means, and is prepared to advance the travelling expenses of young women who come from the country to qualify for admission. This money is to be paid back by the girls in successive small instalments when they were provided with situations. Until they obtain employment, and while being trained, the candidates will be boarded free of charge. The condition is that they shall only look for places in Ireland—of which there are always an abundance vacant—and in this way it is hoped that the emigration of active young women will be checked in some degree.

Truth, however broad, is necessarily single-sided. Only falsehood presents two faces.

People We Hear About

It is reported from Halifax, Nova Scotia, that Mr. David Wark, member of the Canadian Senate for Fredericton, New Brunswick, was 100 years old on February 19, having been born at Londonderry, Ireland, on February 19, 1808. He is said to be the oldest legislator in the world. Mr. Wark has been in political life 61 years. He is engaged in the timber industry, and is in good health.

The motor car, like the bicycle (says the London 'Monitor') seems to be obtaining episcopal sanction. The Right Rev. Francis Mostyn, Vicar-Apostolic of Wales, has caused a mild sensation in West London by motoring to the Church of Our Lady of Grace and St. Edward, Chiswick.

Mr. Denis O'Donovan, parliamentary librarian of Queensland, now on a visit to Rome, is one of the most distinguished men of letters in Australia. He is a Cork man. He was educated at the Sorbonne, in France, and afterwards became Professor of Modern Languages and Literature of the Catholic University of Paris. His first work, entitled 'Memories of Rome,' received universal commendation and a special encomium from Pius IX. He came to Australia in 1866, and in 1874 accepted the position in Queensland which he still holds. Mr. O'Donovan holds numerous honors from the learned societies of many European nations.

Mr. John Redmond was the guest of the London Welsh Society at the annual Welsh national dinner in the Hotel Cecil, London. Mr. William Jones, M.P., presided, and when Mr. Redmond rose to propose the toast, 'The Welsh Nation,' he met with a reception of such enthusiasm that several minutes elapsed before he was able to obtain a hearing. The large company cheered again and again, and sang 'He's a jolly good fellow,' after which they all sprung to their feet and continued cheering till one might have thought that it was only physical exhaustion that brought the remarkable demonstration to an end.

A remarkable Englishman, who made the Pope's acquaintance in Brussels (says the 'Daily Chronicle'), was the late Father Ignatius Spencer, or, in the language of Dod and Debrett, the Hon. and Rev. George Spencer, the uncle of the Earl Spencer of to-day. In his 'Letter to the English People,' Pope Leo recalled his friendship with Father Spencer and the efforts of that convert priest to bring back his countrymen to the ancient faith. Father Spencer was originally a benefited clergyman of the Church of England, and his going over to Rome, long before Manning and Newman took the same step, created a great sensation and much controversy. He joined the Order of Passionists, and was one of the founders of the church and monastery of that community on the top of Highgate Hill.

The advice given to the jury by Lord Alverstone, the Chief Justice of England, recently when trying a case between a playwright and a manager with reference to an operatic version of 'Charles O'Malley,' to read 'that novel—advice which was enthusiastically seconded by Mr. Cripps, K.C., M.P., who was one of the counsel in the case—may render it of interest (says the 'Freeman's Journal') to recall recollection to the fact that Charles Lever, on the first appearance of 'Charles O'Malley,' got into hot water with a distinguished member of the Connaught Bar, a Mr. Charles O'Malley, who had actually fought at Waterloo in an Irish Dragoon regiment, and resented the assumption of his name by the novelist for the title of his work. He sent a hostile message to Lever, who, however, made a satisfactory explanation. Mr. Lever and Mr. Charles O'Malley became fast friends, and Charles O'Malley was known to the end of his days as 'The Irish Dragoon,' and became eventually very proud of the soubriquet.

It is of interest to record that by far the greatest number of the Irish-Americans interviewed by Captain Shaw-Taylor during his recent tour of investigation regarding the Celt's attitude in the States towards the British Empire are of Irish birth. For instance, in New York, the Hon. W. MacAdoo, Secretary of the Navy under Cleveland, is a native of Antrim. It may be mentioned that Mr. MacAdoo is the leader of his race in New Jersey, a district of which he represented for many years in Washington. Recorder Goff, a leader of Irish opinion in the Empire City, is a Wexford man, and before obtaining his present prominent position on the New York Bench, was at the head of the criminal lawyers in Manhattan. Mr. Patrick Ford, the well-known editor of the 'Irish World,' is a West of Ireland man; and Mr. Patrick Egan's former connection with Dublin is, perhaps, too familiar for mention. Mr. T. St. John Gaffney, another New Yorker interviewed by the Captain, is a native of Limerick city, where his family at present fill a foremost position in professional and social circles. In Boston, Mr. Collins, the Mayor, is a Fermoy (County Cork) man, whose career in the States is a triumph and vindication of what pluck and energy can do in achieving success under the most adverse circumstances. Mr. James Jeffrey Roche, another Irish American, of Boston, seen by the Secretary of the late Land Conference, is a native of Queen's County; while when in Chicago, the Captain's interview with Colonel Finerty, President of the United Irish League of the States, brought him into contact with a native of the City of the Tribes.