

## FEATURES OF THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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## MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

*Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.*

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1921.

## SUPPRESSION OF TRUTH



HERE are more ways of conveying a false impression than by telling a direct lie. And the indirect methods of suggestion of falsehood and suppression of truth are as shameful as the direct. Sometimes we find our New Zealand daily papers guilty of telling the plain lie, as for example when a certain truly British organ of capitalism announced that certain crimes committed by Orangemen were done by Sinn Fein.

But as a rule the underhand way is the one dear to the average New Zealand editor. The record of our press during the war was shameful and there was no keeping account of the falsehoods told and the truths suppressed by the knights of the pen who, like beagles on the scent, were panting after an O.B.E. or a place in the Upper House. Since the war ended, the long training continues to assert itself, and Ireland is attacked now by the frothy champions who helped to hunt so many men to death in a so-called war for the freedom of small nations. In all the ignoble campaign there has been nothing more vile than the suppression of the facts concerning Ulster, which, of course, is still used as a means of protracting to the latest hour the exploitation of Ireland in the selfish interests of England. The editors of our papers must be presumed to have some slight acquaintance with the British press, even if they make it quite clear that an intelligent view of the Irish question is beyond them; yet, with a servile silence, and with a slavish eye to their own interests, they take good care that so far as they can prevent it the public shall not be informed of the treacherous gerrymandering of the corner of Ireland which they persist in calling Ulster, or of the inhuman atrocities committed during the past year on a Catholic minority by the Orange hordes whose safety is the one tenuous excuse to which Lloyd George clings for a defence of his injustice.

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It is significant that the one item in which Ulster's imports for the year show an increase is that of fire-arms and explosives—the arms and ammunition used deliberately without a remonstrance from Prime Minister Craig, or from any of our daily editors, for the purpose of killing Catholic men and women. It is significant that while de Valera's men kept the Truce, Ulster was unable to keep it; and July this year saw

the Belfast streets lighted by blazing Catholic homes and running red with warm Catholic blood. And nevertheless, our humane and honorable daily editors are bound in self-interest to suppress all accounts of the awful deeds done in that corner of Ireland which gave to New Zealand its Prime Minister, the god of the pressmen, William Massey of Limavaddy. Have the dailies ever commented on the fact that the King's appeal for peace was answered by the same Orangemen who in bygone years would not have Queen Victoria as their Sovereign with an orgy of murder and arson? Have they told the public how members of the new Carsonian Parliament have celebrated their arrival and proved their contempt for the King by breathing forth senseless fury against "Rome" and "Papists"? Have they showed how the tirades of Coote and McGuffan were backed by the drive on Catholic workmen and by the riots that rendered nearly 150 Catholic families homeless in honor of King William of Orange? Have they even expressed a mild wonder that the British Government, which pretends to be concerned about the safety of its Orange pets, has not been able to protect a Catholic minority from their fury? Concerning all these things the New Zealand daily press has been silent. The papers that were wet with editorial tears over infants that were never maimed and over atrocities that existed only in the imagination of rabid jingoos, look on with apparent pleasure, or condone by their silence, cruel murder, wholesale arson, and an unrestrained war on women, as long as these crimes are done to Catholics by Orangemen, by the savages used by the British Government as tools for the oppression of a small nation.

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The Carsonian, Coote, apparently a creature after the hearts of Messrs. Hutchison and his fellow British gentlemen, celebrated the "Glorious Twelfth" by uttering the following characteristic pronouncement:

"The Sinn Fein upheaval is not confined to Ireland,—it is world-wide and organised as only Rome can organise. It is trying to break up the free principles of Christian government enjoyed by nations holding to the truth of God; it is anti-Christ in action; it is opposed to every code of Christian morality; it is dishonoring God and will fail . . . poor Ireland is duped, drugged, and made to drag the Church's juggernaut car."

And, over the Irish Sea, another British gentleman, no other than the Duke of Northumberland, broke out in a like strain, while the *Morning Post* gave us the following—capitals and all:—

"PREPARING FOR 'ANTI-CHRIST. OUR JUDAIZED PRIME MINISTER embraces alien de Valera, heeding not the cry of MARTYR'S BLOOD."

And from America comes the news that the Rev. Mr. Irvine, who was associated with Coote in the attacks on the Irish Catholics refuted by a decent Ulster clergyman, has been deprived of citizenship on account of his immoral conduct. Such are the tools that our pressmen, our editors who were so sorry for Belgium, who were so angry about German crimes that were often only imaginary, protect and defend by the most cowardly and ignoble kind of lies: suppression of the truth and suggestion of falsehood. Bear well in mind how our editors have protected the Ulster murderers, and you will be able to judge of the worthlessness of their frothy editorials concerning the situation in Ireland from day to day. Apart altogether from their shameful record during the war, this conduct with relation to the murder and arson campaign of Carsonian brands the New Zealand editors as a very dishonest and very vile set of day-liars. What hope is there for a country that tolerates a prostitute press? There is little consolation in remembering that in no other land on earth is there such unanimity in degradation, such utter lack of honor, such unconcern for the truth, as we find among New Zealand's day-lie men. As we said before, we have good reason to be glad that such debased tools are not on the side of Ireland at present. We can leave them with equanimity to their task of hiding the crimes of their Orange friends.