

Here and There

Rev. Father Moran, S.M., Assistant-General of the Marist Order, has left Europe on an inspection visit to the various Houses of the Order, which will include Australia and New Zealand.

Dr. Cuno, the new Chancellor of Germany, is the fifth practical Catholic to hold that position. His Catholic predecessors were Prince Hohenlohe, Von Hertling, Pehrenbach, and Wirth. The two remaining Chancellors, Caprili and Von Bulow, were Protestants. Dr. Cuno is 46 years old, and is not a member of the Centre.

Miss Kathleen Garven, a Cork lady, who won fame in New Zealand as a dramatic contralto, gave a song recital in the Wigmore Hall, Dublin, recently, in the presence of a large and appreciative audience (says an exchange). Miss Garven was assisted by Mr. Celso Diaz, a well-known Spanish violinist. Miss Garven (says a Dublin critique) has been the recipient of many flattering notices in the New Zealand press. Her voice is of great range and power, and of real sweetness. She sang several operatic numbers in a manner which won imperative encores; but her greatest success was, perhaps, her simple rendering of "Mother Machree," which won unstinted applause from a critical audience. In all her songs she proved herself the possessor of a voice with a fine tonal command, never forced or overstrained. Her phrasing was admirable.

Amongst the notable speeches delivered in the House of Commons during the debate on the third reading of the Irish Free State Constitution Bill was one by Mr. McEntee a Protestant Irishman, who has worked in the Belfast shipyards, but whose experience of Orange intolerance led him to sever all political connection with that fraternity. He had, he said, worked in the South of Ireland for years and lived in exclusively Catholic communities, and had never been interfered with owing to his religion. But his experience amongst the Protestants of Belfast had proved to him that the attitude of the Protestants towards Catholics there was less tolerant. He had seen heavy iron rivets thrown at little children merely because they were Catholics. Mr. McEntee made an earnest appeal to the Ulster members to promote the cause of Irish unity and to refrain from the delivery of inflammatory speeches. But they are not likely to respond to it as long as they follow the guidance of that aggressive politician, Lord Carson.

Sir Norman Moore, President of the Royal College of Physicians, who has just died in his 75th year, was the only Catholic member of the medical profession who was elected to fill this high position in the ranks of the medical hierarchy. Like the Catholic poet Francis Thompson, Sir Norman Moore received his early education at Owen's College, Manchester, afterwards proceeding to St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, of which he became an honorary Fellow, ultimately being appointed consulting physician to the great London hospital of St. Bartholomew. The burial took place at Sedlescombe, in Sussex, after a Requiem Mass at the Catholic church at Battle. The Anglican Bishop of Chichester was among the mourners at the graveside, together with members of the peerage and representatives of the entire medical profession in England. The priest of Battle spoke a few words at the graveside, dwelling on the great physician's noble mission in life of ministering to the needs of others.

His Holiness Pope Pius XI. has issued a letter to the Cardinal Patriarch of Venice on the centenary of the great Catholic sculptor, Antonio Canova. After mentioning instances of Canova's work for religion, the Church, and the Popes, the Holy Father expressed his intention to be represented at the centenary celebration, and deputed the Cardinal Patriarch for that purpose "to interpret Our thoughts, raising an authoritative voice to express the gratitude of the Holy See towards Antonio Canova and to repeat solemnly how the Roman Church has never at any time failed to pay homage to every manifestation of the true, the good, and the beautiful." The honor to be paid to the memory of Canova, the sculptor, by Pope Pius XI. follows quickly upon the honor paid by Pope Benedict XV. to the memory of Dante the poet, whom the late Holy Father lauded as the "greatest singer of the Christian ideal." It is part of the consistent policy of the Catholic Church to encourage and foster true Christian art, to pay

homage, as the Holy Father so well said, "to every manifestation of the true, the good, and the beautiful."

The loss of the services of Count de Salis as British representative at the Vatican is deeply to be deplored (writes the *London Universe*). No diplomat at the disposal of our Foreign Office can represent British interests with more authority, more ability, and more tact, though in Mr. Theo. Russell, who succeeds the Count, we have a most able representative, who will be very welcome at the Vatican for hereditary reasons. He was, in fact, born in Rome, in the year of revolution, 1870, and he is married to a Saxon lady of gracious personality and high gifts. We trust that the unmatched experience and attainments of Count de Salis will be used to good purpose by the Foreign Office. He is one of the few men who understand Balkan questions right through. The Catholic community loses his more special services to Church and country with profound regret. Should he be called to those larger tasks in which the interests of the country need his help, the Catholic public will feel its own loss to be somewhat compensated. Should this, unhappily, not be the case, they will look forward to the addition of a great personal force to the resources of unofficial Catholic action.

After Mr. Timothy Healy's three hurried visits to London from Dublin in the course of the past week (on important business, it was said) there was little surprise when it was learned that this distinguished lawyer and King's Counsel was to be the first Governor-General of the Irish Free State (says *Catholic News Service*, under date December 9. With the ratification of the Treaty and Constitution at Westminster and the giving of the Royal Assent to the measures, there passed out two historic offices: that of Irish Secretary and the Viceroyship of Ireland. In the legal world Mr. Healy enjoys the highest prestige outside the ranks of the judges. His brilliant success at the Irish Bar, and an equal success at the English Bar, to which he received the compliment of the "special call" in 1903, have placed him high in the ranks of the legal hierarchy. As a devout Catholic Mr. Healy has been closely associated with all Catholic movements in Ireland, and many of his most finely polished orations have been delivered before strictly religious audiences; though his brilliant wit and scathing sarcasm have been better known in the House of Commons at Westminster. Chapelizod, where his family residence is, was the birthplace of the late Lord Northcliffe.

In announcing the death of the Rev. John P. Pittar, S.J., of St. Aloysius' Church, Washington, the *Catholic Register* of Denver, Colorado, recalls a dramatic and mysterious sick call he received one night, which it is said came from the dead. It was after midnight when the summons came to the rectory. A small boy had rung the bell and given the porter the address of a house in Georgetown. "Please tell Father Pittar to go quickly," he said. "A sick man needs him." It was one o'clock when Father Pittar reached the house, and he found it in darkness. But the front door was slightly ajar, and, entering, he perceived a light on the second floor. He knocked and the door was thrown open by a man with a pistol in his hand. Surprised at the figure of the priest, he rudely asked him who he was and what he wanted. Father Pittar explained that he had come in response to a sick call. "I am not sick," said the man, "and I sent no one for you. Who called you here?" Father Pittar described the boy as best he could. "That is a description of my boy who died five years ago," said the man. "After he and his mother died, I grew despondent and was planning to take my own life this very night. In a few minutes I would have been a suicide." Father Pittar comforted the man and left him in a hopeful mood. Thereafter he visited him regularly.

Cardinals Tacci and Ranuzzi de Bianchi have suddenly risen into great popular favor owing to the fact that during the celebrations at Loreto they flew in an aeroplane for half-an-hour. Representations of the two Cardinals in special aviatorial habiliments have appeared in the *Piccolo*, the popular mid-day journal. The two striking headings in the largest print were: "How for the first time two Princes of the Church flew under tricolored wings," and "Cardinals Tacci and Ranuzzi bless from the sky of Loreto the people of Italy."