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AMERICAN MISSION AT FORT DOUAUMONT

SECOND SECTION

Notes the Changed Conditions Owing to the War-The Religious Outlook-More Attention Must Be Paid to Plain and De finite Teaching.

livered to the Synod of Ontario by ed in a time like this for what they Bishop Bidwell on Tuesday after- are, rather than for what they have,

I deliver my charge to you this year. | wealth as the only thing in life worth | The very existence of our Empire is having is doomed. being threatened; all the ideals that | In the future, too, it seems likely we hold most dear are at stake, and that the two great principles of serthe issue is as yet unknown. Let my vice and sacrifice, which have, thank first word then be in the name of. God, been displayed to such a gratithis synod a message to our galiant fying extent by many already, will men who are giving and risking their | be permanent influences in the nalives for our sakes at the front that | tional life. It is true that there are we will support them to the end, and not a few even now who are victims next that whatever measures may be of selfishness, allowing others to deemed necessary by the Government | make every sacrifice for their for securing this result will be loyal- benefit, while doing their best to ly accepted by us, whatever sacri- evade it themselves. Such people fices may be involved. Our faith is can only be dealt with by the Govbeing sorely tested. But our cause ernment, who must compel them to is sure to triumph, because good bear their share of the burden. cannot be beaten by evil. But the Trained in self-denial and sacrifice strain of the struggle is severe, and by the war, the great majority of probably will become even more se- the people would support any provere before the end, so that every posals which shall distribute equitresource of faith, every ounce of de- ably the burdens which have to be termination will be needed to enable borne, and they will reckon as their us to stand fast, and see the conflict great men in the future, not their

to God in prayer. In this way we any direction. This is the principle realize and show our belief in the of true greatness taught by Christ, presence of God in the world, which and all His followers will repoice is our only hope. He alone can bring | that it should prevail. order out of confusion, and light out of the terrible darkness which now covers the world. We must show ourselves to be on the side of God changed attitude towards what we by keeping His presence ever before call "politics." The war has exposus in our daily lives. I therefore be- | ed some of the inherent weaknesses

front. Their heroism and endur- party, which seemed to stand on a ance cannot be described in words. | pedestal from which it could never We ought to resent most strongly be removed, has already received a the slanders that have been current | shattering blow under the exigencies regarding their moral conduct and of the present situation, to give place sobriety. The Bishop of Frederic- to the principle of uniting all the ton, whom the House of Bishops ap- best talent available of whatever pointed to go overseas to inspect and shade of opinion in the common ser report on conditions there, while in vice. It is to be hoped that this printhe report which he has made he ciple will never be lost sight of. We does not for a moment deny the ex- need the very best minds that our istence of great temptations to which | country can produce to carry on the some succumb, yet proves most con- government of the nation. More clusively the gross exaggeration of land more I believe the people are bemany of the statements made, which ginning to see that true democracy are declared by those in a position | means the government of the nation to know to be part of a regular pro- for the benefit of the nation by its German propaganada to discourage ablest and most honorable men. W our people. Taking all the circum- are fighting to-day as has been said stances into consideration, he con- to preserve democracy for the world by our men is high. We will do all make that democracy worth preservwe can to keep our boys from temp-ling, as I believe we shall, even at the tation, but at the same time we re- great price in blood and treasure we

the future, it is clear that we are that those who have our dearest at We shall do wisely if we endeavor terrible struggle is teaching us, so that a better world may emerge or that those who have been called from the chaos which now reigns. I will touch briefly upon the more outstanding facts.

Materialism Has Gone.

The following is the charge de really much happier. Men are valuand the outburst of popular indig-My Dear Brethren of the Clergy nation against those who have seized the occasion of their country's need It is with an intense feeling of the to heap up profits for themselves is deep solemnity of the occasion that a hopeful sign that the worship of

multi-millionaires, but the men'who More than ever then must be turn have best served their generation in

Change in Politics.

Next there are indications of a seech you to pray without ceasing. | even of democratic forms of govern-I have spoken of our men at the ment as we know them. The idol of

Last of the matters upon which guilty of aiding the enemy by such attitude which is growing up towards point of view. The church must rely God bless them and their work, and Regarding the general outlook for | annot do without it. It is not only changes in every department of life. Hves could never have a moment's peace did we not believe that they are them, in the hands of a loving God: upon to suffer bereavement in this war have found in the grand and glor-

fences of Verdun, which the French have reconstructed and strengthened since they drove out the Huns. The accompanying pictures show the mission before one of the underground entrances to the fort on the side of Douaumont hill and its members returning beside a narrow gauge rallway built to bring up supplies and ammunition. The nature of the country, devastated by gunfire and full of shell craters, is well depicted. All the members of the faity, including many of their escort

AMERICAN MISSION

at DOUAUMONT

An American mission recently



FRENCH OFFICIAL PHOTOS

grinding competition which is an- are doing splendid service." the legitimate sphere in which the in the corps has rendered more effec- for a courage second to none. They church should and must exercise her tive service. Of Major Creegan he vice of our church, by means of the quiet, faithful devotion to duty and literature circulated under the ex- untiring zeal, and adds: "They both tremely able editorship of Professor are chaplains of a very high order." Michell, a member of this Synod, has When he hear such a gratifying reing church members with the sub- this diocease considerably exceeded jects in question. But we must never its share of the sum asked for by Colforget that the church must approach onel Almond from our church to help or even from a purely philanthropic doing so ably among the men. May must seek primarily to change men's many and great dangers. hearts, to get the spirit of Christ in-

to them, to build up the Kingdom of God and His righteousness here and United Effort Needed.

comprise, but of contribution of it a voluntary matter. treasure. This is a question for The English Bishops are I underthe leaders of our church to take up stand, making provision for clergy without delay, as spasmodic and un- that can possibly be spared to enlist, disciplined movements lead nowhere, mainly in the non-combatant The time has come for the church as branches of the service, as this is

Our Chaplains Overseas. Two of our clergy, majors the Rev. such action after the most careful W. E. Kidd and Rev. C. E. Greegan, consideration where his highest duty are still at the front as chaplains, really lies. At the same time, it They are men of whom the diocese must not be supposed for a moment may well be proud. The director of that a chaplain's office is a safe po-Chaplains' service, Col. the Rev. Can- sition. On the contrary, a very high

nfluence. The council for social ser- says that his service is marked by lone something towards familiariz- port, we cannot but feel glad that these questions not from a material the social work that our chaplain our

Clergy and Military Service,

now. Not alleviation, but redemp- ment on the question as to whether to assimilate the lessons which this and will be, whatver may happen to tion is the task her master has as under the great stress of need for men the clergy of miltary age should offer themselves for service other than that of chaplain. The British Further it is beginning to be seen Government recently withdrew the ious resurrection faith their their that if the church is to exercise upon exemption of the clergy, but very greatest comfort; the conviction is the world the influence she might, soon afterwards cancelled this porgrowing that religion is not only a there must be united effort upon the tion of the measure, and placed the In the first place, the sheer ma- matter of saving the individual soul, part of all those who confess and clergy in the same position as before. terialism which really ruled in pre- supremely important as that is, but call themselves Christians. If the That is to say, as excluded from comwar days has gone, I hope never to that it must bring its influence to world is to listen, as I believe that pulsory service. No request to this return. It is abundantly clear to- bear on all the practical matters of she is ready to listen, then Christians effect was made by the ecclesiastical day that the life of a nation depends | this life, on social problems and rela- must learn to speak with one voice. authorities, who were quite willing to upon the ideals which it is prepared | tionships of every kind, and in a pub- Hitherto we have only seen the diffi- do what the government determined to maintain at all costs. The very lie though not a party sense, upon culties of closer union, and they cer- upon. The British Government gave thought of the sheer luxury and ex- politics. The preservation of child- tainly are serious enough. But the as a reason for the reversal of their travagance which prevailed in pre- life, the elimination of the deadly time has now come to consider the action, bringing the clergy under conwar days is revolting to us now diseases which prey upon society, possibilities. We have in our scription, that they found that when when we remember the hardships so the care of the feeble-minded and the church a priceless heritage. Certain they came to look into the matter gladly endured by our men at the improvement of environment which great truths for which we stand we that after due and proper provision Life shows signs of becom- will prevent this evil, the securing for could never surrender, because of for the spiritual needs of the people dng much simpler, and therefore every one the right of equal oppor- their proved spiritual value to count- at home, which they recognized its less numbers of men and women from was absolutely necessary to provide the earliest days to the present time. | for, they found that so few compara-But closer union should come not on tively speaking would be left for conthe basis of elimination or even of scription that they preferred to leave

> a whole to express its mind on this what the Government requested. But they are very careful not to do any-Once the Christian forces of the thing to leave the spiritual needs of country were able to speak with a the people at home uncared for. That united voice, we could impress upon is the only proper basis of action. In our statesmen, as we cannot now, the this diocese we have already several tremendous and national importance vacant parishes, and in other cases of spiritual training for our children, I have been obliged to give one man side by side with their mental and charge of two missions, and in still physical education in our schools, another to attach a mission which has We could then see to it, that the mat- long had a clergyman of its own to ter of providing for the spiritual two neighboring parishes. Furtherneeds of the population that we are more, of our younger clergy have building up in this country, left just been summoned for immediate aitherto to the efforts of various re- duty as chaplains, so that more parligious bodies a task that they are ishes will be thrown on my hands. obviously unable to fulfil adequately, Consequently, any clergyman who should be seen to be a national obli- might feel inclined to offer himself gation, and that the previous policy for service other than that of chapof doing every thing to meet the ma- lain, must consider very seriously terial needs of those who come to first where his highest duty lies. It is this country, while leaving the pro- the greatest mistake to suppose that vision for their spiritual needs to in- the spiritual charge to which he has dividual religious bodies, ignores the been called is one which can lightly fundamental fact that no national life be ahandoned, even at the present that will endure can be built upon a crisis. Indeed, his spiritual ministraoundation which overlooks, the na- tions are even more need. So while ion's obligation to provide for the I could not refuse any clergyman who spiritual as well as the mental and might be convinced that it had bephysical needs of all. It ought not come his supreme duty to effer for to be beyond the bounds of possibility | military service other than that of to secure such a measure of agree- chaplain, as responsible for the spiritment as would bring this result with- unit welfare in the sight of God of this diocese, I should urge him to remember his most solemn obligations here, and only even to contemplate

unities in life, the removal as far as on Almond, speaks of them as fel- proportion of military chaplains have may be of the present system of lows: "Majors Kidd and Creegan already lost their lives, and many more have been wounded. Now that swerable for so many evils, and the He goes on to speak of Major Kidd they are allowed to go with the men Christianizing of the relations of in a way that greatly redounds to to the front trenches, their position capital and labor, all these things are his credit, stating that no chaplain is one of constant danger, and calls

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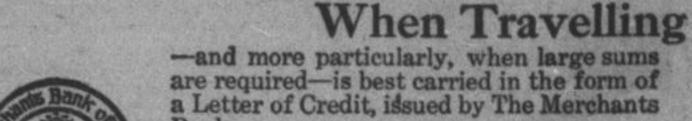
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