

# CARDINAL DEL VAL SOON TO RETIRE

Rome, Oct. 9.—The probable retirement of Cardinal Merry de Val from the all-important post of papal secretary of state, which is said to have been brought about by representations made to the Vatican by American and English prelates, adds another argument to the contention that the genius of diplomacy, like that of poetry, is heaven born, something which careful nursing in the most favorable atmospheres cannot produce.

When young Mr. Rafael Merry de Val, as he was then, visited America in 1896, intrusted with ironing out the religious creases made in Canada's politics by the Manitoba school dispute, his first important mission, a distinguished American lawyer, who met the papal ablegate twice, said of him:

"Mr. Merry de Val is diplomacy personified and idealized." Other persons well qualified to judge expressed the same opinion of the diplomatic abilities of the young papal nuncio. Then it was announced in 1903 that the new pope, Pius X, had selected as a new secretary of state this same Merry de Val, and those acquainted with his qualifications expressed no surprise. It was, they said, an instance of extraordinary diplomatic talent mounting to its proper pedestal.

Those same wise heads who recognized the young ecclesiastic's powers were rather surprised, therefore,

when they learned the past week that the retirement of Merry de Val was imminent and that he would probably be succeeded by Cardinal Rampolla, who formerly held the office of papal secretary of state.

Much regret is expressed here over the apparent failure of Merry de Val to win his spurs in the higher diplomacy. If he is not possessed of the divinely given diplomatic genius, as events seem to prove, he is as high a type of his class as the world unassisted can evolve. In the artificial adornments of professional statesmen he stands at the head of the list. He is a diplomat by birth, predilection, education, and training. His father was the Spanish ambassador in London when Merry de Val was born. His father, Alfonso, is in the Spanish diplomatic service, and his father's fathers were statesmen for generations before him.

Fitted by the traditions of his race, by his mental abilities, by his social tact, his personal charm and constitutional preferences, for diplomatic eminence. It is difficult to explain Merry de Val's apparent failure as a papal secretary. His lack of success might be attributed, indeed, to his youth and inexperience, for the cardinal is not 45. Most of his fellows in the Sacred College were bishops when he was born. But Leo XIII's papal secretary, Cardinal Rampolla, who is likely to return to his old post, was only 44 when he first



CARDINAL MERRY DE VAL.

assumed the office. His experience was not greater than Merry de Val's, when his incidental diplomatic accomplishments were considered inferior.

The responsibilities and difficulties of Merry de Val's office, particularly since the rupture with France, may be urged as an explanation of his short-comings. Of all the diplomatic posts in the world, that of papal secretary of state unquestionably requires the highest degree of diplomatic ability properly to dis-

## GUARD BEGINS MOVING PLANT TOMORROW NIGHT

All copy intended for publication in tomorrow's Guard must be handed in early, as we must go to press not later than 4 o'clock, in order to begin moving the plant to our new home in the theatre block. We expect to print some kind of a paper Monday evening as usual, but it may not be the complete size. By Tuesday we will be in running order again, but expect to be working under disadvantages most of the week. After that the Guard will be printed earlier in the afternoon and be a better paper in all respects than it has ever been before, as we will have a plant double its present capacity in all respects. We do not expect our job printing work to be interrupted to any extent by the moving operations, and it will be in commission Monday as usual.

charge its functions. Other secretaries of state have soldiers and battleships to give weight to their demands and they can negotiate with the practical international currency of military or commercial favors and concessions.

The papal secretary of state, however, is the pope's army and navy and treasury. What he wants he must obtain by a skillful show of right, and for diplomatic concessions he must offer mutual advantages, sometimes moral, sometimes spiritual, sometimes sentimental, but always intangible. The church having spiritual subjects all over the world, and comprising two-fifths of Christendom, the secretary must preserve, if possible, friendly relations with all nations, although the nations themselves are in constant discord. To maintain his equilibrium upon this whirling diplomatic ball, Merry de Val has high qualifications in that sort of acrobatics, but he has also his vulnerable points, and recent circumstances and events have been precisely those best calculated to bring out his diplomatic shortcomings.

## EIGHTY-SIX AIRSHIPS GATHERED AT BERLIN

Berlin, Oct. 9.—Eighty-six balloons are assembled here to take part in the airship contests which begin here tomorrow and continue over Sunday and Monday.

## FAIR WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair tonight and Saturday; cooler; light frost tonight.

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## NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the Comstock Golden Gate Mining Company at the office of Drs. Bartle and Scaife, No. 32 East Ninth street, Saturday evening, October 10, 1908, at 7:30 p. m. Everybody invited. This will stand the most rigid investigation. The stockholders sent a man down there to look the property over and make a report. Come and hear what he has to say. Don't fail to be on hand. Respectfully,  
T. J. SWEANY.

## CARD OF THANKS

Mrs. Stuckey and family wish to return thanks to the kind friends that came to their assistance in their bereavement.

## E. G. HAIGHT

As I am going away persons having photos will please call for same, Tent Gallery, Sixth street.  
Grain threshing is still going on in Baker county.

## GASOLINE WOOD SAW.

Garrison & Gibson saw all wood to gage. Office Black 1571. Home Black 1751.

Harney county is out of debt and has cash in the treasury.

## NEW TODAY

FOR SALE—Nice new residence of five rooms and good lot in good part of the city for sale. Price, \$1350. One good new residence of 7 rooms and lot, close in. Price, \$2700. One lot 50x180 feet, good part of the city for \$425. One fine business property for sale on Willamette st; brings in good rent. Centrally located. For further information call on the Pacific Land Company, Room 7, Hovey block, D. L. Cartmell, manager.

FOR SALE—Cottages near University, 1 four room, \$700; 1, five rooms, new, modern, \$1200. One close in 4 room cottage, excellent lot \$2150. Red Star Real Estate, Room 11, First Nat. Bank.

LOST—A pair of gold-rimmed eyeglasses with heavy bridge; lost between Hampton's store and Seventh and Willamette streets. Please leave at Guard office. 010

FOR SALE—Pure-bred Rhode Island Red roosters at 75 cents each. If taken soon will deliver anywhere in Eugene. Phone Red 4871. Humphrey, South Willamette street. 013

FOR SALE OR TRADE—For a bicycle, a Poco No. 4 folding camera, 4x5, nearly new. Enquire at 800 East Thirteenth street., Dempster's store. 012

LOST—A black dairy book, bearing the address of T. E. Newton, Medford, Oklahoma. Finder please leave at Guard office. 010

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