

50 years ago

THE TABLET • 22 APRIL 1967

There has been no official comment from Vatican sources on the publication in this week's *National Catholic Reporter* of the full text of the report submitted to the Pope by the papal commission on birth control ... There was, however, apparently no question of trying to challenge the document's authenticity ... Officials were quoted as saying ... "The commission's report is in no sense binding on Pope Paul. Naturally he is thoroughly familiar with the Church's historical position against

artificial contraception. In naming the commission, special emphasis was therefore placed on men of liberal scientific views with the object of preparing arguments for upholding the traditional position against artificial birth control." They thought the Pope had already decided in principle against a significant change in the present ruling: "The main problem now," one explained, "is to present that position in terms both understandable and acceptable to Catholics."

100 years ago

THE TABLET • 21 APRIL 1917

It was Lagnicourt that saw the most terrible sight of all ... A force of Australians ... forced the enemy to retreat, not straight back by the way they had come, but obliquely, so that they came up against their own entanglements, where there were no convenient lanes to let them through. What happened then was just appalling slaughter ... The Prussians struggled frantically to tear a way through the wire, to climb over it, crawl under it. They cursed and screamed, ran up and

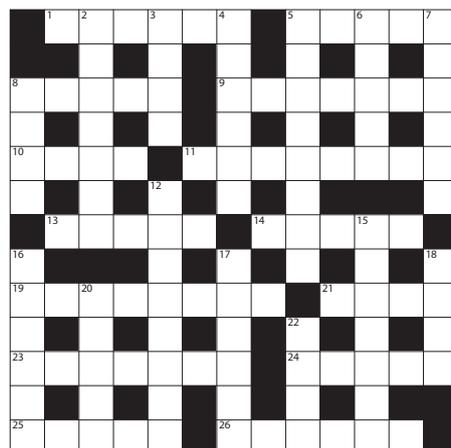
down like rats in a trap, until they fell dead. They fell so that dead bodies were piled upon dead bodies in long lines of mortality before and in the midst of that spiked wire. They fell and hung across its strands. The cries of the wounded, long tragic wails, rose high above the roar of rifle fire and the bursting of shrapnel. And the Australian soldiers, quiet and grim, shot on and on till each man had fired a hundred rounds, till more than fifteen hundred German corpses lay on the field at Lagnicourt.

PUZZLES

PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 555 | Alanus

Across

- 1 Mark of infamy with thanks mark of rare saint (6)
- 5 Commanding mountain for Moses? (5)
- 8 See 14 Across
- 9 Devil with real upset for Prince Vlad cognomen (7)
- 10 See 14 Across
- 11 Dance and French in charge of graceful steps (8)
- 13 Paul sails over to see his travelling companion (5)
- 14,10 & 8: Innovative scholar set wife on most direct route (2,3,4,5)
- 19 Typical issue flag? (8)
- 21 Rock sound prophet (4)
- 23 Medical graduate got up before a Latin Doctor of the Church (7)
- 24 Be former winner (5)
- 25 Religious poet within completed name (5)
- 26 See 18 Down



Down

- 2 Middle East city expedition about oil (7)
- 3 Inflicting a sharp wound (4)
- 4 Jack and me upset with Ahab revealing King Rehoboam's successor (6)
- 5 Being desperately in need of Pandora's box (8)
- 6 Roofer returned and got candles burning again (5)

- 7 Prophet presented by composer with sport at heart (6)
- 8 Back of church to find allied armies General in war (4)
- 12 Where it's kept being drawback with posh garment (8)
- 15 Show of greeting when weather bad? (7)
- 16 Was about to be held by aged early warrior Saint (6)
- 17 Rage about Bible being silver (6)
- 18 & 26 Acr: Lights Santa endlessly turned on eschatological theme (4,5)
- 20 Vestment an indication of early martyr Saint (5)
- 22 Son of Jacob name in casual wear (4)

Please send your answers to:

Crossword Competition 22 April

The Tablet, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. Three books – on Jesus, Christian Art and Catholicism – from the OUP's Very Short Introduction series will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random on Friday 5 May.

● The answers to this week's puzzles and the crossword winner's name will appear in the 13 May issue.

Solution to the 1 April crossword No. 552

Across: 1 Elijah; 5 Aaron; 8 Ralph; 9 Sherwin; 10 Naam; 11 Dohnanyi; 13 Idaho; 14 Again; 19 Anicetus; 21 Tibi; 23 Cremona; 24 Rhoda; 25 Satay; 26 Anthem. **Down:** 2 Lollard; 3 Jehu; 4 Hyssop; 5 Abednego; 6 Rowan; 7 Nuncio; 8 Reni; 12 Threnody; 15 Isidore 16 Marcus; 17 Purana; 18 Zita; 20 Ibert; 22 Writ.

Winner: Bill White, of Well Hall, south-east London.

SUDOKU | Tough

6			5			1
		9	1	6	4	
	5		3			9
3			5	8		4
			1			
7			3	2		8
	1		6			2
		4	7	3	1	
5			2			3

8	7	4	5	6	3	9	1	2
9	1	3	8	2	4	7	5	6
2	5	6	7	9	1	3	4	8
1	9	2	6	3	5	8	7	4
3	8	7	9	4	2	1	6	5
4	6	5	1	7	8	2	9	3
6	2	9	4	8	7	5	3	1
7	3	1	2	5	6	4	8	9
5	4	8	3	1	9	6	2	7

Each 3 x 3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solution to the 1 April puzzle

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