

'Timaru Herald' of September 30. Every paragraph contains a 'poser,' and the eminent fairness of mind of the writer (who is a Presbyterian clergyman) appears throughout the whole course of his letter. He pronounces the manifesto of the Catholic Bishops 'the best and sanest thing yet set in type on the subject,' and so far, he has 'neither read nor heard any equitable answer to it.' And neither has any one else. Two principles of elementary fair play laid down by the Rev. Mr. Chapple will be 'pizen' to the Bible-in-schools Executive. The first runs as follows: 'The special tenets of the Catholics are as precious to them as the sectarian views of any other branch of the Christian Church are to others.' Here is the other principle referred to: 'We must ever give to others the same liberty of thought in religion, politics, or aught else, which we like to enjoy ourselves.'

Sweet Consistency

It appears that the Wellington Presbytery some time ago reorganised their Bible-classes on 'new lines.' So much, at least, we learn from a paragraph in last Friday's issue of our local morning contemporary. But the 'new lines' do not seem to have been well baited. At any rate, they did not hook, to any great extent, the 'young fry' for whom they were cast. For the last meeting of the Presbytery reports a falling-off in attendance. The Rev. W. Wood and others furnished a possible solution of the trouble by pointing out that secular subjects were allowed to intrude too much upon the religious element in the classes. Here are some of the subjects for discussion at the 'Bible' classes: 'Will the motor-car supersede the horse?' and 'Are men superior to animals?' Some of the clergy pleaded, in effect, that a bit of Bible would be serviceable at Bible classes—a reminder of Artemus Ward's suggestion that a 'goak' (joke) once in a while is an improvement to a comic paper. This whole subject, however, has no interest for us except for the moral to which it leads up, and which was drawn with refreshing frankness by one of the speakers. 'In view,' said he, 'of the demand of the Church for the introduction of the Bible into the public schools, the discussion of such subjects on a Sunday afternoon would enable the editors of secular newspapers to call attention to the inconsistency of the Church in making the Bible take a second place in so-called Bible classes.'

Air ye listenin', Dr. Gibb?

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Forty Hours' Adoration was brought to a close in St. Joseph's Cathedral by the customary procession on Sunday evening.

The Right Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Geraldton, Western Australia, has been on a visit to Queenstown and Central Otago since last week.

At the recent examination held in connection with Trinity College, all the pupils presented from St. Joseph's Convent, Port Chalmers, passed with honors.

In an interview granted to a representative of the 'Evening Star' Mr. Seddon, before leaving Dunedin on Monday afternoon, among other subjects touched upon, stated he had visited the orphanage at South Dunedin, and he was very pleased with the children, who were clean, healthy, and tidy, and gave evidence of being well cared for and well fed. They were educated in the parish school, mixed with the other children, and were treated exactly the same as them. Next he went to the Home for the Aged and Needy. This home was very well situated, had a beautiful outlook, and the inmates were exceedingly comfortable.

A very pleasant time was spent by the members of the St. Patrick's choir a few evenings ago at the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary's residence (says the 'Tuapeka Times'). The object of the gathering was to bid farewell to Miss Rose Fahey, one of their members, and to make her a presentation to show their appreciation of her past services. The Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary, on behalf of the choir, presented Miss Fahey with a handsome set of carvers and dinner cruet, and in doing so wished her happiness in her new sphere of life. Mrs. Jones (her sister) suitably responded.

The Rev. H. W. Cleary lectured to the Catholic Young Men's Club in South Dunedin on Monday evening. There was a large attendance of members and their friends.

A meeting of members of St. Mary's Literary and Social Club, Milton (says the 'Bruce Herald'), was held on Tuesday evening, when there were about 45 members present. The Very Rev. Father O'Neill presided. The annual report and balance sheet, which showed the past year had been a successful one, were read and adopted. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Very Rev. Father O'Neill; vice-president, Mr. W. P. Nolan; secretary and librarian, Mr. M. Curran; general committee, Messrs. W. Kirby, J. Curran, D. Hynes, D. Crowe, Messdames Keogh, Nolan, Misses K. Kirby, and E. Hanley. After the business had been disposed of, a pleasant evening was spent in games, music, etc. Refreshments, provided by the ladies, were handed round during an interval.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

September 28.

An entertainment was given last evening in honor of the Bishop's natal day. It was held over on account of the mission. It took place at the orphanage, Ponsonby, and was eminently successful.

On Sunday last the mission at the Cathedral concluded. At the 6.30 and 7 o'clock Masses very large congregations attended, and of these quite three-fourths approached the Holy Table. At 3 p.m. the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to a large number of candidates, including several adults. His Lordship before administering the Sacrament explained to the children its nature and significance. His Lordship was assisted by the missionaries, and Rev. Fathers Holbrook, Cahill, and Edge. Mrs. Leonardo for the women and girls, and Mr. M. J. Sheahan for the men and boys acted as sponsors. At the conclusion the Bishop again addressed the children, and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the congregation present and taking an interest in the little ones, who were now enrolled as soldiers of the Cross, and to the end of their lives they should all bear in mind the high and noble duty they owed to Almighty God. The Bishop then asked them all to stand, and he administered to them a pledge of total abstinence from all alcoholic drink until they attained the age of 21 years, after which age they would be in a position to judge for themselves. Then all united in singing 'Faith of our fathers,' and the ceremony terminated. At 7 o'clock the church was crowded in every part. The Bishop said the Rosary in lieu of Vespers. Before leaving the pulpit he heartily congratulated the Rev. Fathers Clune, McDermott, and McGrath, of the Redemptorist Order, for their most successful three weeks' mission now about to close. He parted with them with regret, and in this he spoke for all. Father Clune then preached the closing sermon, in which he summarised the work of the mission, and in eloquent and stirring language appealed to the people to remain true to the good resolutions made in this time of grace. He thanked them for their constant attendance and assistance, without which their efforts would have been unavailing. He thanked the Bishop for his kindness to them, and also the priests of the Cathedral, the choir for its invaluable aid, the collectors, and Miss Gough and those who helped in the altar decoration. Father Clune then gave the Papal blessing, specially allowed at the close of their missions. Benediction was then given by the Bishop, and thus ended the memorable mission by the Redemptorist Fathers.

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, the Rev. Father McGrath opened the mission, and Father Clune joined him on Monday.

Father Clune goes to Napier in a fortnight, where he will carry on a mission, assisted by Father McDermott. Father McGrath will remain on in this diocese, and later on will be joined by Father Clune.

GREYMOUTH

There was a large and representative gathering at the Opera House, Greymouth, on the evening of September 21, at the farewell gathering held in connection with the departure of Mr. M. Guthrie to Wellington. During the evening musical items were contributed by Mrs. Cadzow, Misses Harper, Weber, Brønner, Oxenham, Pike, Messrs. Spindeler, F. McCarthy, K. Dillon, G. T. Moss, W. B. Cadzow, and the Catholic choir.

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