

a teaching, but an examining, University, giving degrees to those who were successful in obtaining a sufficient number of marks. This had only an income of £20,000 a year, derived from the Irish Church Funds. To young men and young women degrees were given, and they for the most part got their instruction at one or the other of the four Colleges at Belfast, Cork, Galway, and the Catholic University College at Dublin. We propose to found

#### New Universities

in Ireland at Dublin and Belfast. In Belfast there will be but one college, and in that respect the University of Belfast will resemble the University of Dublin, which has but one college—Trinity. The University of Belfast will have but one college—Queen's; and it will not be able to have any other except by Act of Parliament. Dublin will have three constituent colleges—Cork, Galway, and a new college with a charter—an incorporated body in Dublin itself. Cork and Galway will also have two new charters, and reconstructed governing bodies. Neither Belfast nor Dublin will have any power to add to their constituent colleges, but they will have the restrictive power of affiliation. The existing Royal University will be dissolved as from some appointed day, and its buildings, property, and endowments will be dealt with in the manner mentioned in the Bill. The suggestion is that £20,000 a year shall be equally divided between Dublin and Belfast. Neither of the endowments will have any religious test. No test whatever of religious belief shall be imposed on any person as a condition of his becoming a professor, fellow, lecturer, scholar, graduate, or student, or of his holding any office or endowment or exercising any privilege in either of the two Universities or any college of the Universities; nor shall any preference be given to or advantage withheld from any person on the ground of his religious belief.

#### The Position of Maynooth.

The House will say—What about Maynooth and Magee? They are not mentioned in the Charter or in the Bill, and they are not constituent colleges, but I have no doubt that the Senate will affiliate Maynooth and Magee. I say that quite frankly. Magee has a Presbyterian foundation, and has always been recognised by the Royal University. It has always had a close and honorable connection with persons who have graduated with the Royal, and it would be unfair and unjust that its rights should not be maintained. Therefore I have very little doubt that Magee will be affiliated. The same with Maynooth. A University which altogether ignores and disregards the clergy of the country, starts with very great disadvantages. Maynooth has been of late years closely connected with the Royal. It has made it a condition that every person who enters as a student should matriculate at the Royal. Their course is a long one—seven years, the first three years of which are devoted to arts. A great majority during those three years are encouraged to proceed to a degree. It will be a great hardship upon the students of Maynooth if they are suddenly deprived of the opportunity of obtaining degrees at the University which takes the place of the Royal, to which they have hitherto gone. The arts school at Maynooth is a very good school, and I do not think there is any reason for apprehension that any injury will be done to the Senate or to the University of Dublin if it allows the teaching at Maynooth to be recognised as university teaching. As to the finances of.

#### This Great Undertaking,

the present charge on the Exchequer is £36,500; the present charge on the Irish Fund is £20,000: that is the beginning and end of the public charge as far as it goes. As I said, we propose to divide the £20,000 between the Universities, which will leave £10,000 to each, and we propose to increase the £36,500 in a lump sum to £80,000. That is a provision by way of new endowment of £43,500. Opinions no doubt may differ as to whether that is enough or less than enough. My own belief is that it is adequate for the occasion; that it would be enough if this Bill gets through to make it plain that these Universities will be a success. It is proposed that Belfast will get £10,000 for its University, as part of the Irish Church Surplus Fund, and that £18,000 will be given as an annual endowment, which will make a total of £28,000 a year. The new college in Dublin has, of course, got to be built, and then endowed and maintained, and the proposal is that out of the moneys which I have suggested only £32,000 shall be provided to endow and maintain the new University in Dublin when once started. The income of Queen's College, Cork, will be increased to £18,000 a year, and of the

Queen's College, Galway, to £12,000 a year. All things considered, these sums are adequate and sufficient to meet the immediate necessities of the case. Building grants will become necessary. Belfast has fine buildings which are yet inadequate for the purposes of a university, and it is proposed to grant £60,000 in order to celebrate this auspicious occasion, and to provide it with all the appearances of a university worthy of the distinguished province to which it belongs. The maximum sum needed, I am told, in Dublin is £150,000. That would not be sufficient to build on any scale a residential college. Hostels will have to be left to private enterprise and generosity, and I hope it will be sufficient, first of all, to complete the present university buildings, many of which can be utilised for college purposes.

Mr. Balfour supported the scheme. Mr. Dillon, while protesting against the inadequacy of the endowment, said a university founded on the principles set forth by Mr. Birrell would be acceptable to the Catholics. Mr. William Moore uttered an Orange protest against the whole scheme. Mr. Butcher, the member for Cambridge, who followed, welcomed the Bill, and administered a sharp reproof to Mr. Moore. Professor Massie also spoke in support. Mr. William O'Brien joined in the approval but spoke in detail as to the position of Cork and associated himself with Mr. Dillon's protest against the financial proposals. Mr. Wyndham and Sir Edward Carson supported the measure. The first reading was carried by 307 votes to 24.

The Bill passed its second reading last week by 344 votes to 31.

## Diocesan News

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 18.

For members of the 'Association of the Perpetual Lamps' his Lordship the Bishop has obtained a supply of neatly printed little booklets containing prayers in honor of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Sacred Heart, the Holy Face, the Holy Relics, the Blessed Virgin, St. John the Baptist, St. Joseph, St. Patrick, and Blessed Peter Louis Chanel.

The shipwrecked French mariners of the ill-fated four-masted barque, 'President Felix Faure,' which was lost on the Antipodes Islands, who were rescued by H.M.S. 'Pegasus' and brought to Lyttelton last week, to the number of twenty-two, were visited by the Rev. Father Cooney shortly after their arrival. The greater number of them attended Mass at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday morning, and during the day the Brothers of St. Joseph's Conference Mission to Catholic Seamen, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, interested themselves on their behalf.

The increasing tendency to secularise the Sunday, and desecrate the sacredness of Good Friday has been checked somewhat by at least two public bodies, as the following paragraphs from the 'Lyttelton Times' show: Some time ago the Timaru Borough Council granted the use of its reserves as a practice ground to a football club on the condition that there should be no Sunday games. The club, however, ignored this restriction, and after a somewhat heated discussion on Monday evening the Council decided to inform the club that if it continued playing on Sundays permission to use the reserve would be withdrawn. The absence of a manual fire engine from the Good Friday sports of the Christchurch Cycling Club caused the fire brigade event, which was on the programme, to fall through, it being stated that the Christchurch Fire Board had refused to allow the club to use the engine that had been asked for. At last evening's meeting of the Board the chairman (Mr. J. D. Hall) said that the application had come before him personally that the Board should allow the use of its manual engine and permit the permanent members of the staff to compete at Lancaster Park on Good Friday, but he had not seen his way to grant it. He had recognised that the engine was the property of the public to a certain extent, and somebody was sure to complain if the Board's staff and plant were in use on the occasion, seeing that there was such a difference of opinion as to sports on that day. It was a matter in which he did not like to take the responsibility, and he would like to have some expression of opinion from members. The Board decided to approve of the chairman's action.

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