

THE PROVINCIAL ECCLESIASTICAL SEMINARY OF NEW ZEALAND, HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, MOSGIEL.

IN conformity with arrangements made at the First Provincial Synod, held in Wellington in 1899, this Seminary has been established for the Education of Students from all parts of New Zealand who aspire to the Ecclesiastical State.

Students twelve years of age and upwards will be admitted. Candidates for admission are required to present satisfactory testimonials from the parochial clergy, and from the superiors of schools or colleges where they may have studied.

The Pension is £35 a year, payable half-yearly in advance. It provides for Board and Lodging, Tuition, School Books, Furniture, Bedding and House Linen.

The Extra Charges are: Washing, £1 10s a year, and Medicine and Medical Attendance if required.

Students will provide their own wearing apparel, including the Soutane, as well as Surplice for assistance in Choir.

The Seminary is under the patronage and direction of the Archbishop and Bishops of New Zealand, and under the immediate personal supervision of the Right Rev. Bishop of Dunedin.

Donations towards the establishment of Bursaries for the Free Education of Ecclesiastical Students will be thankfully received.

The course of studies is arranged to enable students who enter the College to prepare for Matriculation and the various Examinations for Degrees at the University.

For further particulars apply to

THE RECTOR,
Holy Cross College, Mosgiel.

NAZARETH HOUSE, CHRISTCHURCH

HOME FOR AGED POOR AND ORPHAN AND
INCURABLE CHILDREN.

This Institution is a Branch of the well-known Nazareth House, Hammersmith, London, which has 29 Branch Houses in the United Kingdom, Africa, and Australia; affords a permanent home to aged and infirm poor of both sexes, also to Orphan and Incurable Girls (those entirely idiotic or suffering from fits excepted). The Home has no funds, and depends entirely for the support of the poor on the alms collected daily by the Sisters in money, food, and clothes. The aged poor are received without distinction as to creed or country, and left perfectly free to attend their own place of worship. A number of applications had to be refused for want of space, and the Sisters were obliged to build, and thus incur a very heavy debt; but they rely entirely upon Divine providence and the generosity of their many kind benefactors (which has never yet failed them) to enable them to pay off this debt. The House may be visited daily between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. Cheques and p.o. orders may be made payable to the Superior, Mother M. Felix.

WANTED

WANTED, Position in Institution or Assist in Presbytery or Catholic household; good needlewoman.—Address Miss A. Brennan, Post Office, Nelson.

DEATH

McENROE.—Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Helena (Lena) Bridget McEnroe, fourth daughter of Catherine and the late Philip McEnroe, late of Addison's, Westport, who died at the Britannia Hotel, Willis street, Wellington, on February 20, 1909; aged 26 years; fortified by the rites of the Church. R.I.P.

—Inserted by her mother and family.

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news WHILE IT IS FRESH. Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office BY TUESDAY MORNING. Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

ADDRESS matter intended for publication 'Editor, TABLET, Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly, ESPECIALLY NAMES of persons and places. Reports of MARRIAGES and DEATHS are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this Office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d is made.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1909.

'THE LAND OF EASY DIVORCE'



AMERICA leads the lurid procession of the nations that are busily engaged in compassing the ruin of true family life by making the marriage tie a slip-knot. It has long been apparent to even the most casual observer that the number of divorces granted in the United States has been constantly and alarmingly on the increase. But, in the absence of official figures, the estimates formed by individuals, however carefully framed, could only be conjectural. Thanks, however, to the recent publication by the U.S. Government Census Bureau of a compendium of authoritative statistics on marriage and divorce, the exact position is now known with absolute accuracy; and the state of affairs which the official figures disclose is sufficient to stagger even the Americans themselves. Which is a hard saying, but true. According to this document, nearly a million divorces have been granted within twenty years. That is to say, there have been during that time in the United States nearly a million matrimonial shipwrecks, and no less than one marriage out of every twelve has ended in the dishonor of the Divorce Court. The investigation just concluded by the Census Bureau covers the twenty years ending with 1906. This report, in turn, supplements one prepared twenty years ago, the two thus together covering a period of forty years. The detailed figures, which are contained in Census Bulletin 96, are summarised as follows by the Washington correspondent of the London Morning Post in its issue of January 6: 'For the twenty years from 1887 to 1906 there were 945,625 divorces reported, against 928,716 in the period embraced in the earlier investigation, 1867 to 1886. An increase of 30 per cent. in population between the years 1870 and 1880 was accompanied by an increase of 79 per cent. in the number of divorces granted. In the next decade, 1880 to 1890, the population increased 25 per cent., and the divorces 70 per cent., and in the following decade, 1890 to 1900, an increase of 21 per cent. in population was accompanied by an increase of 66 per cent. in the number of divorces. In the six years from 1900 to 1906 population, as estimated, increased 10.5 per cent. and divorces 29.3 per cent. Divorces, therefore, have increased about three times as fast as the population, or are now, as already stated, about one to every twelve marriages.' The present average of divorces is 66,000 annually, and after allowance for increase of population has been made it is found that divorce is two and a half times as common now as it was forty years ago.

In his *Jonathan and His Continent*, Max O'Rell tells the story of an American railroad station (or dépôt, as they call it there) which bore the legend: 'Train stops here twenty minutes for divorce.' If the present American high-pressure speed in legally emancipating misfit or disgruntled couples is maintained, Max O'Rell's story may soon be translated into sober fact. There is no national divorce law in America; each State has its own code. To North Carolina belongs the proud distinction of being the only State in which marriage is regarded by law as indissoluble. In the rest the tired Benedict is presented with an almost embarrassing variety of means by which he can slip the marital leash. Desertion, non-support, cruelty, adultery, drunkenness, and incompatibility of tem-

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