

gave utterance to his first public expression regarding the war. All the world appreciates genuine religion, in which practice comes within some sort of inmeasurable distance of profession, but nobody has any respect for cant; and the American President's preachment is the very quintessence of cant. Here it is, as reported by the London *Telegraph's* New York correspondent.

'These are days,' said President Wilson, 'of very great perplexity, when a great cloud of trouble hangs and broods over the greater part of the world. It seems as if great, blind material forces had been released, which had for long been held in leash and restraint, and yet, underneath that, you can see the strong impulses of great ideals. It would be impossible for men to go through what men are going through on the battlefields of Europe, to go through the present dark night of their terrible struggle, if it were not that they saw, or thought that they saw, a broadening of the light where the morning sun should come up, and believed that they were standing, each on his side of the contest, for some eternal principle of right.

'Then all about them, all about us, there sits the silent, waiting tribunal which is going to utter the ultimate judgment upon this struggle, the great tribunal of the opinion of the world, and I fancy I see—I hope that I see, I pray that it may be that I do truly see—great spiritual forces lying waiting for the outcome of this thing to assert themselves, and asserting themselves even now, to enlighten our judgment and steady our spirits.

'No man is wise enough to pronounce judgment, but we can all hold our spirits in readiness to accept the truth when it dawns on us, and is revealed to us in the outcome of this titanic struggle. You will see that it is only in such general terms that one can speak in the midst of the confused world, because, as I have already said, no man has the key to this confusion, no man can see the outcome, but every man can keep his own spirit prepared to contribute to the net result when the outcome displays itself.'

All of which may be summed up thus: 'Dearly beloved brethren, let us walk in the wise and prudent footsteps of our dear brother, Mr. Facing-both-ways. Let us sit, calmly but carefully, on the fence; and when at last the final decision shall have shown us on which side it is safest for us to alight, let us continue, dear brethren, with full hearts, to say beautiful things about the great moral and spiritual issues that have been vindicated in this titanic struggle.' And this is the successor of Washington and Abraham Lincoln!

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The Month's Mind of the late Rev. Father Keenan will take place in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.

On Monday, in connection with the anniversary of the death of Bishop Moran, a Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral at seven o'clock by his Lordship Bishop Verdon, Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., being assistant priest, Rev. Father Delany deacon, and Rev. Father Buckley subdeacon. His Lordship gave the blessing at the catafalque.

There was a very large audience in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday evening of last week, when a concert in aid of the Christian Brothers' Choir was given. The concert on the whole was an excellent one, and the audience showed their appreciation by recalling nearly all the performers. Mrs. R. A. Power, who was accorded an enthusiastic reception, gave a finished rendering of 'In lilac time,' for which she was encored, a similar compliment being paid to Miss E. Murphy for her singing of 'La Marseillaise,' to which she did full justice. Mr. J. McGrath sang 'The blue dragoons' in a manner which appealed to the feelings of the audience, and the inevitable recall followed. Mr. D. Fogarty was very successful in his singing of 'For you

alone,' and Mr. T. Hughes was equally so in 'Come, sing to me,' both items being encored. Mr. J. Leech was also recalled for his programme number, 'I don't suppose,' which was given in a finished manner. An item which met with much favor was the part song, 'Lullaby,' by Masters M. O'Connor, B. Callaghan, J. Yule, L. Fogarty, L. Twomey, L. Salmon, F. Dawson, and L. Cantwell. The only instrumental item was a banjo solo, 'Killarney,' by Miss Duhig. The choir contributed three part-songs—Elgar's splendid arrangement of 'God save the King,' 'Shades of evening' (Hatton), and 'Dawn of day' (Reay), in all of which they showed in an unmistakable manner the progress which they are making under their conductor, Mr. J. Campbell Gillies. A very amusing item was the comedietta, 'A happy pair,' in which the characters were cleverly sustained by Miss Divers and Mr. Lawson. The entertainment, which closed with the singing of the National Anthem, was one of the best given in the hall for some time, and the organisers are to be congratulated on arranging such an excellent programme. Mr. J. Campbell Gillies acted as conductor, and Miss C. Hughes discharged the duties of accompanist with her customary ability.

CATHOLIC SEWING GUILD.

The Catholic Sewing Guild for Belgian relief met on Wednesday, and the following donations were received: Mrs. E. MacEwan, £1; A Friend, 5s; Worker, 5s; A Friend, 2s. Goods were received from Mrs. Banks, Mrs. Gebbie, Miss Heley, Miss O'Connor.

SALE OF WORK AND ART UNION, SOUTH DUNEDIN.

The Town Hall, South Dunedin, was the scene of much activity on Wednesday afternoon, when the stallholders were engaged in preparing for the opening in the evening of the bazaar in aid of the building fund of St. Patrick's School. The postponement of the bazaar last year had, at least, one good result, as it gave the stallholders and their assistants more time to prepare for it, and the result was seen in the splendid stock of goods—useful and ornamental—with which the artistically arranged stalls were filled. The price of admission gives a chance in an art union, in which there are several valuable prizes, and this, no doubt, will prove a great attraction, and be the means of drawing large attendances during the course of the bazaar. Apart from this, a varied programme of spectacular dancing and other popular items will be provided each evening, so that patrons will get full value for their money. The bazaar will be continued up to and including the evening of June 9, by which time it is expected the hopes of the organisers will be fully realised.

The following is a list of stalls:—

South Dunedin Stall. Mrs. J. McCurdy.

St. Kilda and Musselburgh Stall. —Mrs. Hade and Mrs. Carter.

St. Clair and Caversham Stall. —Mrs. Mulholland. Children of Mary and Refreshment Stall. Mrs. Marlow.

Hibernian Stall. Mrs. Stone.

Children of Mary (St. Joseph's). —Miss Columb.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

May 29.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea paid a visit to Wanganui during the week.

The parishioners of Kilbirnie held a social recently in aid of St. Patrick's Church in that suburb at the Kilbirnie Hall, the function being a most successful one.

The office of the Dominion Executive of the Catholic Federation is now at St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott street.