

NEWMAN SOCIETY, AUCKLAND

The annual general meeting of the members of the Newman Society, Auckland, was held at St. Patrick's Schoolroom, on Pentecost Sunday. Brother George, M.A., occupied the chair, and the secretary read the report and financial statement for the year.

In all, nine meetings were held during the year, and these were memorable both for the excellent literary matter put before them and for the large number of members present on each occasion. At the June meeting, Brother George delivered the presidential address in which he showed the work and place of the Catholic Church in higher education. In July, Rev. Father Doyle gave an excellent paper on Gray's 'Elegy.' At the August meeting, there was a debate on the indiscriminate reading of Scott's novels by young Catholics. Miss Jacobsen, M.A., gave an interesting and cultured address on 'The Life and Poems of Francis Thompson' in September. A scholarly contribution, entitled 'The Religion of Robert Browning,' was placed before the October meeting by Miss Callan. The members were entertained at a social evening by Mr. and Mrs. Wright at their home in Devonport in November, when the prize essay by Miss Callan on Newman's *Apologia* was read and discussed. At this meeting, also, tokens of esteem and appreciation were presented to both the president and the chaplain. The March meeting took the form of 'Question day,' and interesting discussions took place on the questions proposed. The April meeting was held at the Sacred Heart College, and at it the members were treated to Father Rickaby's views on 'Religion in the modern novel.' The report closed with expressions of sincere thanks to all who had given the society such kindly and generous help during the year particularly to Father Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, and the various colleges, who provided the halls for the monthly meetings. The society's thanks are also due to the *Tablet* for the publication regularly of its work.

After the report and balance sheet had been adopted the election of officers for 1915-1916 took place, and resulted as follows: Patron, His Lordship Bishop Cleary; president, Rev. Brother George, M.A.; vice-presidents, Rev. Brother Director (Sacred Heart College), Dr. O'Shannessy, Mr. J. J. O'Brien, Miss Jacobsen, M.A.; chaplain, Rev. O. M. Doyle; secretary and treasurer, Miss Nolan; auditor, Mr. G. Browne, B.Com.; executive, Messrs. Wright, Kalaugher, C. Snedden, and Miss E. Mahon.

Before the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the outgoing officials, the president eulogising particularly the secretary's untiring and successful work for the year.

It is interesting to note that the Australian Catholic Truth Society has honored two members of the Newman Society—Mrs. Goulter and Miss Jacobsen, M.A.—by the publication of their contributions.

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INSTITUTION FOR DEAF AND DUMB, WARATAH, N.S.W.

The Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Waratah, New South Wales, is conducted by the Dominican Nuns, under the direction of the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Maitland, and under the patronage of the hierarchy of Australasia. We take the following from the annual report:

The dawn of 1915 marks the 40th anniversary of the inauguration at Newcastle of the work of teaching the Catholic deaf and dumb, and instructing them in the truths of Holy Faith. The beginning was small, only three pupils being present, but since then 184 deaf-mutes have spent many happy years under the care and instruction of the Sisters. During the years 1913-14 the number on the roll was 65, with an average attendance of 58. Fifteen children were admitted to the Sacraments of Penance, the Blessed Eucharist, and Confirmation. The method of instruction remains the same. Results prove its efficiency, and the *Combined Method* of teaching the deaf and dumb has been pronounced by experts in the Home countries as that "bringing the greatest good to the greatest number"—therefore do we cling to it as to a tried and true friend.

During my recent tour (says his Lordship Bishop Dwyer) I visited schools for the deaf and dumb in Belgium, Ireland, and America, and I saw the results of deaf-mute training both in the pure oral system and the sign system. From this experience I am more than ever persuaded that our Waratah Institute has done wisely in not following the fashion of exclusive oral training. This system takes very many years to produce results, and the results are for outward show rather than for inward development of the powers of the pupil's mind and spirit.

The Dominican Sisters point out that the claim of the deaf and dumb to consideration is genuine, and one of the truest ways to show them kindness is to procure for them the best that education can give, and thorough religious instruction can bestow. The Sisters will be grateful if the benefactors of the institution will kindly send their subscriptions as soon as possible.

A BISHOP WHO COULD SET TYPE

'I have got a little item for your paper,' said a clerical-looking gentleman to the editor of the *Portland Mercury* one day in the spring of 1860, as he walked into the sanctum. Items were meat and drink to the country editor in those days, and are yet, for that matter. From the cut of the visitor's garb this editor thought he had some item of church news, and, taking up his pencil, he told his caller that he would be glad to print anything he might have to offer.

'Oh, I'm an old typo and I'll set it up myself if you don't mind,' said the visitor, and appearing not to notice the editor's amazement, he sauntered into the composing room. Finding an unoccupied case and an empty stick, he set up the item out of the case without any copy. The boys in the office refrained from their usual gaying, for the manner of the clerically clad typesetter forbade any badinage, as he handled his stick and behaved like one of the craft.

We was watching them out of the corner of his eye, and when he had set less than a stickful, he read the matter over as he crossed the room to the old-fashioned proof press, laid his stick on the bed without dumping his take on a galley, inked it, and pulled a proof. He looked it over and found it clean enough to submit to the editor. This is how it read:

'Among the visitors to our town to-day is the Right Rev. Josue M. Young, Catholic Bishop of Erie, Pa. He will be in town for a few days to renew old acquaintances. As a boy he learned his trade as a printer in the office of the *Argus*, and by the kind permission of the editor it is he who has set up this item to let old friends hereabout know that he will be glad to meet them. He is stopping at the Catholic rectory.'

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