

WHAT NEW ZEALAND WANTS

THE DUTY OF THE STATE.

A patriotic demonstration and jumble sale in aid of the fund to procure comforts for wounded New Zealanders at the front, and of the Belgian relief fund, was held in His Majesty's Theatre, Dunedin, on Thursday night of last week, as the result of the efforts of Miss Bessie Hume. There was a moderate attendance, and an excellent and varied programme made the evening a thorough success, while the efforts of many energetic collectors and vendors rendered it of considerable benefit to the funds which it was intended to augment.

Among the speakers was the Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., who spoke in part as follows:—

We in New Zealand considered that we had been making sacrifices, but yet our country was prosperous, and everything was going on as though no war was taking place. We were now slowly realising what a war would mean if it were being waged in our country, and we were bound to make all the sacrifices we could for the furtherance of the cause of the Allies. As for our own New Zealand soldiers, those who came back wounded deserved our greatest care and sympathy. He did not think that we were yet doing our share towards these men who were going to the front. He would cite one instance. He had a case in his mind of a man who went to the front throwing up a situation worth £3 10s a week to do so. His employers promised to keep his situation open for six months and to pay his wife £1 a week for that period, stating that at the end of six months they would consider the situation anew. At the end of six months the £1 a week payment was stopped. This woman had 1s a day from her husband practically all of his pay, but even with this the result was that she had to go and earn her bread in Dunedin. We had not touched the very fringe of what we could do, and it was a shame.

'The war has now been going on for months,' continued Father Coffey, 'and during all that time the Government of the country has never yet met together. It has allowed different associations to come to its rescue. What is its duty? Was it not its duty to come together at the beginning of the war, and, if necessary, get the authority to equip the men and see that those dependent on them at home received the care necessary for them, and that they were in no worse a position than when the breadwinner was in New Zealand earning his weekly wage? (Applause.) I think there is no doubt whatever as to the duty of the leaders of the country in the position they were in. Therefore, I take it that I am not transgressing the privilege given me to-night in raising my voice against such action on the part of those who should be the leaders of the people.'

'There is another matter,' continued Father Coffey. 'This war has brought home to us one fact, and that is that it is of no use to rely on past glory and past victory. If we are going to keep the flag flying and continue to be a progressive nation we will all have to do a little more, and our individual citizens will have to do a little more. We must protect, preserve, and increase the population. It is realised that it is men who are going to win, and not broad fields and empty paddocks. Sooner or later, if the country is not populated, and ploughed fields are not occupied by men instead of sheep and cattle and bullocks, our nation will go down in spite of past honor and glory. Our people must keep the cradles filled, and the leaders of the nation at Home must not allow that waste to go on that has continued for the last 50 years—that sending of over 100,000 people a year to a foreign country instead of keeping them under our own flag. (Applause.) We have to-day in America something over 20,000,000 of people who should be under the English flag, and could have been there if our leaders had done their duty. Only last week we were told by a representative man that every adult male in the country was worth at least £300 to

the country. Now, if we take £15 or £17 as the amount necessary to pay the passage of a man from the Old Country to Australia and New Zealand, where there is plenty of room, then, for that £15 or £17 we have an asset of over £300 for the country. But instead of spending this £15 or £17, we allow these people to go under a foreign flag, where, in the course of events, they bear us little sympathy and are willing to give us little help.

'It is our own fault,' Father Coffey continued. 'Let us therefore look after ourselves, look to our own, help one another, join one another, and increase and multiply as God has commanded, and if we do that, although we are at present going through the throes of the war, still we will come triumphantly through, and our nation will go ahead. Let us see that when our men come home they shall be received kindly. Let us do our best to assist and help their kith and kin who are sorrowing at the present; for although there may be triumph and glory for the men at the front, yet, in their homes and around their hearths, thoughts of doubt and anxiety fill the minds of their mothers and sisters and sweethearts. Let us hope that they will come back, and if they do, let us not allow them to rely on charity, or be buried in paupers' graves. I am sure that the nation is profoundly stirred, and that every man, if he cannot go to the front himself, will do his duty for those who have gone, realising, if for no other reason, that by so doing he is paying an insurance policy on his own life, property, and freedom.' (Loud applause.)

VOLUNTEER DEMONSTRATION IN DUBLIN

The great parade and review of National Volunteers in Dublin on Easter Sunday constituted a historic demonstration of National unity and strength (says the *Freeman's Journal*). From all parts of Ireland, from the remote villages of the West and South, as well as from the bigger centres of population, representative contingents of Ireland's National Army assembled in the city to take part in a demonstration as historic and perhaps no less significant than that of 1782. Fully twenty-seven thousand National Volunteers assembled in the Phoenix Park, and subsequently marched through the streets of Dublin amid the enthusiastic cheers of crowds estimated to number some 200,000 people. Though the ranks of the National Volunteers have been greatly thinned since the beginning of the war, and some twenty five thousand of their enrolled members, and at the same time the best disciplined and best trained of them, have joined the army, the great gathering demonstrated the strength and spirit of the forces of Nationalist Ireland and the fitness for defence of the country and its free institutions against all enemies. In the words of Mr. Redmond, it is inconceivable that after the spectacle in the Phoenix Park and in the streets of Dublin that the Government will any longer hesitate to use this splendid force for the defence of Ireland.

Unable to Travel.

The full strength of the contingents who had intended to take part did not reach the city. The railway arrangements, though excellent in some cases, were found inadequate, and corps who had intended to travel to the city found themselves at the last moment unable to obtain the necessary travelling accommodation. This was not the fault of the railway companies nor of the local organisers, but was entirely due to the fact that the numbers who decided to make the journey were so great as to be wholly unexpected, with the result that the railway officials were unable to cope with a rush that was not anticipated by anyone concerned. Were it not for unfortunate hitches in this direction a much larger number would have taken part in the parade. They would have added to the imposing array of numbers, but even in their absence the display in the

GOITRE CURED!

The woman who thinks the goitrous swelling in her neck too bad ever to be cured will read with relief what a Greymouth resident wrote: 'I believed my Goitre to be too bad to be cured, but after using your treatment it has been reduced 4in.'

Price 10/6 (a month's supply), post free to any address from

A. DOIG, CHEMIST, WANGANUI.