

State. It must face that position to-day, and decide how to reduce excess and relieve penury where they exist, and how to prevent their re-appearance. Undoubtedly the process will involve confiscation of unjust gains, stringent regulation of trusts and monopolies, strict limitation of profits, much nationalisation of public services. Mammon will tremble on his throne, and good easy-going folk, who never took the trouble to justify their social creed, will stand aghast at the changes which, with the sanction of Christian morality, the reformers will exact, having the Ten Commandments at their back and the permanent welfare of the community as their guide. The dire alternative to this reformation is red revolution. Unless the workers, who vastly outnumber their fellow-men in every community, can readily secure what is just and fair, socially, politically, and industrially, they will tend to claim more than their rights. Every day sees the workers better organised and more determined. They hold in the vote all the essentials of political power; and, in the matter of industry, they have Samson's strength, and beware lest they be goaded to use it as Samson finally did. Let us Catholics—genuine Christians as we are—insist on Christian justice. We have no lack of right guidance setting before us the Christian ideal. Civilisation needs Christ, the Father of the world to come (which may haply mean the Christianised social order) and the Prince of Peace. But Christ needs the co-operation of Christians—let us give it without stint.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

June 23.

On Wednesday evening last a novena, preparatory to the consecration of the parish to the Sacred Heart, which will take place on Sunday, was commenced in the Cathedral by Fathers Langley and Kilbride, C.S.S.R. The exercises, similar to those of a mission, are being well attended. On Sunday evening, when Father Langley preached on the obligation of hearing Mass, the congregation was exceedingly large.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration began on Sunday after High Mass in the Cathedral and will be continued until Tuesday night.

Miss Ward is acting temporarily as organist at the Cathedral.

Father Leen, pastor of Lincoln, who has not been enjoying good health of late, is being relieved by Father Fogarty.

The Catholic Girls' Club social, held in the Hibernian Hall on last Thursday evening, was largely attended and proved most enjoyable.

The foundations for the new Catholic girls' school buildings are now well advanced. On making the necessary excavations, the soil formation proved to be excellently suited to the purposes of building.

Solemn consecration of St. Mary's parish to the Sacred Heart will take place on Sunday next. The sermon, special to the occasion, will be preached by Father O'Leary, Marist Missioner.

On last Sunday morning at the 9.30 Mass, some 50 children attending the Convent Schools made their First Holy Communion. The First Communicants were afterwards entertained to breakfast by their teachers, the Sisters of the Mission.

There was First Communion of the children at St. Agnes's Church, Halswell, on Sunday last, and at the Sacred Heart Church, Addington, on the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Arrangements for the Grand Victory Fair, to be held in August, are well advanced. Committees and stall-holders are working energetically, and the executive, presided over by Messrs. J. R. Hayward and T. Cahill, is holding meetings weekly. Valuable prizes have been secured for the art union, for which books of tickets are in wide circulation.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

June 21.

With the return from active service of many of its old members, the Celtic Football Club has acquired new vigor. In this connection a young men's social club has been formed, meeting every Thursday evening in the Browne Street Hall. The Celtic team, third grade, was successful in winning their contest in the seven-a-side tournament held here recently.

The members of the Catholic Red Cross Guild, under the leadership of Mrs. J. R. Loughnan, have formed themselves into a Catholic Women's Social Guild, with the aim of organising, when necessary, entertainments to provide funds for various parish requirements. On Thursday evening last the guild held a most successful social in the Assembly Rooms, when a handsome sum was raised, which will go far towards defraying the cost of shelter sheds that have recently been erected at the Marist Brothers' School.

SECRET OF FOCH'S VICTORIES.

Father Lockouell, a Canadian priest of the Archdiocese of Quebec, had lodged for some time during the spring in General Foch's residence. He had the happiness of giving Holy Communion to the general and to his wife. Madam Foch told him (says the *Irish Catholic*) that during the dark hours of spring the English line was completely broken. This was a set-back that could easily have developed into a disaster. Foch betook himself to the spot and measured the extent of the danger. He asked for the cure of the little village, and begged him to gather the children of his parish in the public square. When this unique corps had been drawn up the general gave an order that was likewise unique in the history of military commands. "To your knees," he said, "and let us pray." During a silence that contrasted with the thousand detonations of the war, the deep voice of the general alternated with the sweet prayer of the priest and the vibrant answers of the children. Their prayer ascended to the Sacred Heart. When it was finished the general dismissed his recruits, and ordered the French cavalry into the breach. The infantry follows. Soon that fatal opening is closed, and Foch, who was victorious in stemming the onward tide of the enemy by prayer, prepares with prayer rather than with his genius for the decisive victory.

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