

A Bad 'Break'

Some time ago, it will be remembered, an appeal was taken from the Queensland Supreme Court to the High Court of Australia to settle the question of the interpretation of a priest's will, in which his Grace Archbishop Dunne, of Brisbane, had been left some £37,000 to be devoted to Church and charitable purposes. The Supreme Court decided in favor of the Archbishop; but, on appeal, the High Court reversed this decision, two of the judges, however (Judges O'Connor and Higgins) dissenting. Misled by the names of these two judges, a number of the bigots jumped to the conclusion that both were Catholics; and they were contemptible enough to openly insinuate that these gentlemen had allowed their religious beliefs to influence them in their judgment. Whereupon, a well-known Sydney weekly falls upon them in the following vigorous fashion: 'The Yellow Pup is an habitually untruthful tyke; but when it jumps at a false conclusion and bites the Commonwealth High Court, it is time to drop the old habit of disregarding its untruthfulness, and invite it to an interview with the Law. At a 'Protestant Defence' meeting at Adelaide, a Pastor Rankine mentioned that an R.C. Archbishop was interested in a will for some £35,000 or £37,000; and, when the case was before the High Court two Catholic judges voted one way and two Protestant judges the other way, and the Hebrew judge voted with the Protestants. And Pastor Rankine wanted to know what would have happened if the Hebrew had been an R.C. As a matter of fact, there is but one R.C. judge on the High Court Bench (O'Connor). Higgins, whom the tyke no doubt took to be an R.C., is a Protestant, the son, indeed of a Protestant clergyman. So the whole horrible imputation against the Court falls with a sickening thud on top of whatever fragment of reputation the "pastor" happened to possess.'

'The Home and the School'

Under this heading the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Maitland, discusses, in his Lenten Pastoral, the question that is arousing general interest amongst the Catholic body throughout Australasia. Dealing with the political aspect of the question, his Lordship has the following pointed and weighty words, the application of which is by no means confined to the Catholics of the Maitland diocese: 'Now, regarding our schools, we have one or two questions to ask ourselves: First—Do we all, parents or not parents, take a lively interest in the welfare of our schools as representing the cause of religion amongst us? At a conference recently convened by the Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney, it was decided to establish in Sydney a committee representative of both clergy and laity from all parts of New South Wales, to promote the interests of Catholic education. When the time comes for the realisation of this project, I trust that our diocese shall be able to send its representatives to that committee.'

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'For the present, let me urge on all who are capable of taking an intelligent interest in matters of public policy, that it is a duty incumbent on them as Catholics to enter into and actively promote a cause which is admitted to be a vital cause of religion. The fact that in the educational policy of this State our rights as Catholics are ignored, is due to the fact that we are a minority. But as our being a minority does not deprive us of freedom to profess our religion, neither does it invalidate our rights in the matter of public education. It is the part of intelligent citizens to know their rights, and of courageous citizens to maintain them in the face of opposition. This is the daily work of political action in general. The part of Catholics as such in our political life is almost confined to maintain our educational rights. Hence the necessity of knowing them, and of being prepared to stand up for them.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

About eighty members of the Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table on Sunday at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin.

The Rev. Father Lynch (Wrey's Bush), who has always taken a keen interest in Hibernian matters, has arranged with the District Deputy (Mr. J. J. Marlow) to pay a visit to Nightcaps next Saturday to explain the objects of the society, when it is hoped a strong branch will be formed. All the Catholic men in the district should make an effort to be present, whether eligible for membership or not, as their presence will show sympathy with a movement that must prove beneficial to every Catholic in the parish.

On St. Patrick's Day his Lordship the Bishop celebrated Pontifical High Mass at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, Rev. Father Coffey (Adm. St. Joseph's Cathedral) being assistant priest, Rev. Father O'Reilly deacon of the Mass, Rev. Father Liston (Rector of Holy Cross College) sub-deacon, Rev. Fathers Morkano and Corcoran deacons

at the Throne, and Rev. Father Buckley (Holy Cross College) master of ceremonies. The panegyric of St. Patrick was preached by the Rev. Father Coffey.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

March 20.

A church parade of the Marist Brothers' School Cadets is fixed for the first Sunday of April at the half-past 9 o'clock in the Cathedral.

Quite a number of events, athletic and otherwise, in the Canterbury district, were fixed for St. Patrick's Day and the day following, which seems to indicate that as a general holiday period the date is yearly becoming more popular.

At an executive committee meeting of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club, held last week, the secretary reported having written to the kindred associations at Timaru and Temuka in regard to arranging a series of inter-club football matches at both localities at Easter.

His Lordship the Bishop made an episcopal visitation of Rangiora on Sunday last, and is to be at Oxford, another portion of the same parochial district, on next Sunday. This will complete his Lordship's visitation of the North Canterbury part of the diocese.

In view of compulsory military training there are indications of a movement to enrol in separate corps according to age, the members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, which has already attained to a greater numerical strength than any organisation of Catholic young men ever before in the city.

A three days' bazaar in aid of the building fund of a new church at Glentunnel was opened on last Thursday evening at Coalgate by Mr. C. A. C. Hardy, M.P. Musical friends from Christchurch and the Glentunnel Brass Band assisted at the entertainments. Coalgate and Glentunnel form part of the Darfield parochial district, in charge of the Fathers of the Missionary Society of the Sacred Heart.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Victoria League last week, his Lordship Bishop Grimes said that he felt sure the league deserved not only the approbation but the practical sympathy and support of patriots. Its objects were to strengthen the ties between the Old Country and the overseas dominions. He referred to the misconception he had found on the Continent regarding the relations between Great Britain and her colonies. It had been impressed on him that when war came the dependencies would throw off their yoke and declare for independence. He had explained that there was no yoke, and had been met with the answer, 'What about Old Ireland?' He had explained that if Ireland had the same autonomy as New Zealand, Australia and Canada, no one would be more loyal and devoted. When war had broken out the people overseas had risen *en masse* and had given a great object-lesson to the world. Were there a like need to-day there would be the same response, and the league did a very useful work in strengthening these bonds that made for Imperial unity. He had, Bishop Grimes added, been asked on behalf of the league, to voice a farewell to the president, Mrs. A. E. G. Rhodes, on her departure for England. She was a lady as able as she was amiable, and despite the indefatigable zeal of the honorary secretary, the president would be greatly missed during her absence in the Old Country. It was very rare to find a president with such admirable qualities. He wished her Godspeed on behalf of the league, and expressed the hope that her stay would not keep her too long away from her friends.

A renewal mission in the Cathedral by the Redemptorist Fathers was commenced at the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday last, in the presence of a large congregation. Prior to the Mass the missionaries were met at the entrance of the Cathedral by the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., when the temporary charge of the parish was entrusted to them, after which they were conducted in procession to the Sanctuary. Addressing the congregation, the Very Rev. Father Price said an introduction of the Redemptorist Fathers to the people was unnecessary in view of their many and successful missions conducted in the city and throughout the diocese. Their spiritual ministrations have always proved fruitful and lasting, and he urged a devoted compliance with the order of the Mission, and a faithful co-operation with the efforts of the Missionary Fathers from the very beginning, for upon this the ultimate success of the mission entirely depended. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R. He solemnly placed the mission under the patronage of St. Joseph, whose feast day it was. At half-past 3 in the afternoon the children's mission was opened by the Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R. In the evening there was an enormous congregation. All the ordinary accommodation of the great Cathedral was fully occupied long before the opening devotions, and by the fixed hour all of the several hundred additional chairs placed in the corridors, were in use, and still the people came in increasing numbers. The preacher was the Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., who delivered an impressive discourse on the need of a preparation for the end of life and eternity. Quite a large congregation attended the first early Mass of the Mission

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