

Tallow and Fat.—Consignments are coming forward fairly regularly, and all received is readily placed at late rates. Quotations: Best rendered tallow, 23s to 26s; medium to good, 20s to 22s 6d; inferior, 16s to 18s; best rough fat, 16s to 18s; extra good, to 20s; medium to good, 14s to 16s.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co. report:—

There was a very good entry of horses for last Saturday's sale, the major portion of them being draughts, with a few spring-carters and weedy buggy sors. There was a splendid attendance of the public, most of the town carriers, as well as a large number of farmers, being present, and included amongst them were quite a number of actual buyers. Consequently we have to report a good sale. The consignment from Messrs. Tubman Bros., Roxburgh, was greatly admired, and elicited keen competition. A bay mare in this consignment commanded a lot of attention, and was eventually secured by Mr. D. Lyon, Awamangu, for £60. Another mare fell to the bid of Mr. Ewen McLennan, Berwick, at a satisfactory price. The balance of this lot all changed hands at prices ranging up to £35. Mr. Thomas Whelan, of Roxburgh, also had a consignment of draughts forward, but most of them were rather stale for Dunedin market, and the highest price we have to record in this lot was £37 10s, this price being obtained for a nice five-year-old gelding. For other vendors we sold a large number of draught mares and geldings at up to £35. Spring-carters were also in demand, but most of them forward were on the aged and small side, and our highest price in this section was £20. The buggy horses on offer were a rather weedy lot, and the highest price in this class we have to record is £16. The demand for good young draught mares and geldings continues unabated, and we could place any number at the present time to advantage. We quote:—

Superior young draught geldings, at from £40 to £45; extra good ditto (prize-winners), at from £45 to £50; superior young draught mares, at from £50 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, at from £30 to £40; aged, at from £10 to £15; strong spring-van horses, at from £25 to £30; strong spring-carters, at from £18 to £25; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, at from £15 to £20; light hacks, at from £8 to £13; extra good hacks and harness horses, at from £13 to £25; weedy and aged, at from £5 to £7.

HOW 'NEUTRALITY' WORKS IN FRANCE

THE WAR AGAINST RELIGION

The religious struggle which has been going on in France for thirty years, has not yet ended (writes M. Eugene Tavernier, of the staff of the *Univers in America*). Indeed, it promises to grow fiercer with time. In my last communication to *America* I wrote about the groups of school teachers who had entered suit against several bishops. Your readers will, perhaps, remember that the occasion of this legal battle was a letter drawn up by all the bishops, condemning the irreligious propaganda which was being kept up in the schools. The School Associations retorted by bringing the matter to court, with the result that Cardinal Luçon was fined five hundred francs with costs. This decision had already been given at Reims, and the Court of Appeals at Paris, to which it was carried, reaffirmed the sentence. As a matter of fact, the judges are appointed by the Government, and are unyielding in their defence of the lay school, which also depends on the Government, and is permeated with freethinking ideas. To help to an understanding of the importance which the school system has in this contest, it will suffice to recall the number of teachers, male and female, who make up the scholastic body. I take these figures and many others, from an article by as important a personage as the Instructor-General, M. Compayre, which was published a few days ago. There are at present in the schools, 112,000 teachers for the primary schools alone. Their annual salaries run up to one hundred and twenty million francs. For school buildings and equipment, hundreds of millions have already been expended. Against this formidable organisation, which draws upon all the resources of the State, Catholics have to fight, while at the same time they are paying heavily for their own schools.

The Work of the Press.

Besides this, the lay schools are backed with terrific ardor by the Freethinking press, which is doing its best to destroy the traditional Faith of the country, and to make the nation profoundly and passionately atheistic. The bishops, of course, cannot look on idly at this condition of affairs, and are using all their power to thwart its purposes. No doubt the fight which they have begun will result in very interesting encounters. About three years ago a part of the episcopate denounced the propaganda

which was actively carried on by a newspaper called *La Dépêche*, which exercises the greatest possible influence in the four departments in the south-west, south, and centre of France. It has on its staff a great number of politicians, professors, and well-known writers, all of them utterly anti-religious. Every edition of the *Dépêche* furnished the public with two or three articles which were reeking with blasphemy against God, and packed with all kinds of sophistical arguments against religion. Three years ago the bishops of the Province of Toulouse launched a collective pastoral letter denouncing the grossness and perfidiousness of these articles and forbidding Catholics to read the paper. *La Dépêche* became very angry, expressed itself as such, and uttered all sorts of threats, but did not sue for damages, as it threatened. It decided that it was more prudent and more practical to modify the character of its articles for the moment.

The Fight in the South-East.

To-day, it is in the south-east that the fight is hottest. At Lyons, two journals which have wide circulation—viz., *Le Progrès* and the *Republicain*, are using all their vile influence to carry out their purpose. Like the papers above referred to, their columns are filled with the most blasphemous utterances against the Trinity, creation, the Papacy, the Blessed Virgin, the Church, etc. The effect off all this upon the people is most deplorable. As a consequence the bishops of the Province of Lyons, with the venerable octogenarian, Cardinal Coullié at their head, issued a collective letter, in which they not only denounced the scandal, but resorted to active measures to put an end to it; forbidding the faithful to read either of the journals concerned, under pain of grievous sin and the refusal of the Sacraments. This letter was read in all the churches of the Province of Lyons. Other papers, the *Tribune Republicaine*, and *La Loire* are put in the same category as those mentioned above. Will they act as the *Dépêche* did, and do nothing but show their wrath. Perhaps not. One of them makes the announcement that it purposes to sue the bishops. When it does we can be pretty sure that it will not act alone, and we shall soon see the bishops taken to court and condemned as they have been elsewhere in France, with a possible increase in the fines and costs. For their courage, the bishops will have to pay heavily. Probably also the matter will be discussed in the Legislature, for the Freethinkers are evidently eager to have a special law against the bishops and priests, to prevent them from doing elsewhere what they have done at Lyons.

The Future.

In brief, the future threatens to be a period of trouble; the Catholics are girding themselves for the fray; they are rather proud of their Bishops, and have made up their minds to stand by them resolutely, for they see that their enemies are intent upon leaving them no liberty which it is possible to deprive them of. The fight is now so hot that resistance may become an absolute duty for all Catholics. Many Catholics who were only nominally such, and would not believe that all religion was threatened, are now opening their eyes to the importance of the contest, and perhaps will very soon make up their minds to take part in it. The struggle will be violent, but at the same time it will be salutary.

A notice with reference to the train arrangements for the Easter holidays appears elsewhere in this issue....

The Rev. Brother Patrick Fogarty, of the Patricians, and Vice-President of Holy Cross College, Ryde, has left for Europe. Before his departure the college students tendered the popular Brother a farewell concert. He was also made the recipient of many presents from the students and friends of the college. He has been associated with the college for fourteen years, and was a most popular and welcome guest at the ex-students' reunions. Brother Fogarty will return to Sydney at the end of six months.

CITY OF DUNEDIN MAYORAL ELECTION.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1911.

CR. WILLIAM BURNETT

(Senior Councillor on the Dunedin City Council),
Solicits your VOTE AND INTEREST at the forthcoming
Mayoral Election.

COUNCILLOR BURNETT has been a member of the Dunedin City Council continuously since 1904, and has filled the offices of Chairman of the General Committee (1907-1909), and Chairman of the Reserves Committee (1906-1911). Besides representing you upon various Public Bodies, he has been a member of the Dunedin Drainage and Sewerage Board since 1903, and has been Chairman of that body since 1905. He was also for many years a member and for some time Chairman of the Maniototo County Council.