

their condition is not, as with their immediately more fortunate fellows, a scandal—it is rather a proof of final political incompetence. Between that million at the top and that two (or three) millions of refuse—with its one million of the utterly lost—stands the bulk of the nation. It includes from six to seven million families earning a wage in the case of the vast majority grossly insufficient but fairly regular. It includes the small traders, the casual laborers who in one way and another balance the year; it includes also most of the skilled artisans, the shopmen, the great organised trade unions (two million families), the clerks—most of them; the lesser salaried men and pensioners.

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‘If any statesman really desired the well-being of this ill-ordered mass of ten millions; if anyone with the opportunity really wished to raise the standard of the State and to redeem it, he would necessarily begin with the large margin of the helpless, and give them tolerable lives, feed their bodies and warm and house and clothe them into some semblance of citizenship. Our population breeds from its present elements in proportion to their poverty. Our wealthy classes have a birth rate far lower than that of all rival countries except the United States. Our comfortable classes have a birth rate lower by far than the birth rate in the corresponding class in France. Our increase is from the slums. The Potteries, the denser quarters of Liverpool and Manchester, the East End of London are the nurseries of our future. Supposing, then, that you are sincerely aiming in any particular at the economic reform of the State it is necessarily with the three—or two—debased millions that you are driven to begin; and, of these, with the lowest million of all.’

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Mr. Belloc argues that the Insurance Bill should have begun with the most necessitous. They were deliberately neglected, he says. He asks what would it cost to provide the hopeless with 7s 6d a week during certified illness, at least 30s when a child is born, and all the rest of the string of ‘benefits.’ ‘It would cost more than 4d and less than 5d a week for each person of over 16. Leave out bribes to unnecessary officials, leave out unbuilt and very doubtful sanatoria, and that sum is ample. The broken million families are, say, two million of adults all told, allowing for the many isolated individuals on one side and the grown families on the other. Two million pounds a year saves them all in that regard. Take in the three million families which are the maximum in such a calculation—six million pounds a year will meet all that need. Why, the tea tax alone—which falls and is designed to fall mainly on the poor—produces that six millions within a trifle!’

DIocese of DUNEDIN

The Christian Brothers' School reopens on Monday after the Easter vacation.

The Christian Brothers' Cricket Club is to hold a euchre party in aid of the club and gymnasium funds in St. Joseph's Hall on April 17.

His Lordship the Bishop left yesterday forenoon for Auckland, from whence he intends to proceed to Te Aroha and Rotorua. During his Lordship's absence all communications on diocesan business should be addressed to the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., Oamaru.

His Lordship Bishop Verdon has been pleased to make the following changes among the clergy of the diocese:—Rev. Father Woods, who has been in Oamaru for the past two years, goes to Invercargill, Rev. Father E. Lynch, who has been acting temporarily at St. Joseph's Cathedral since Christmas, has been transferred to Oamaru, and Rev. Father Buckley, of Holy Cross College, has been appointed to St. Joseph's Cathedral. Rev. Father P. J. O'Neill has been appointed assistant to Rev. Father Keenan, Riversdale, whose health has not been satisfactory for some time.

During the holidays the members of the Christian Brothers' senior football team journeyed to Timaru

for the purpose of playing a couple of matches against the Association teams in that district. On Saturday they met a team representative of South Canterbury, and were victorious by 4 goals to one. The game was played at Temuka under ideal conditions, and, despite the score, was evenly contested, both teams playing excellent football. On Monday they met a Timaru team, and were defeated by 4 goals to 2. Owing to the roughness of the ground, the game was hardly satisfactory, but at times the play was really of a first-class order. The members of the team were delighted with their holiday, and spent their time most enjoyably visiting the various places of interest in the locality. They were specially interested in the new church at Timaru, and are enthusiastic in their praise of the magnificence of the edifice. They also visited the pretty little church at Temuka, and were charmed with the beauty of its interior decoration.

There was Pontifical High Mass in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Easter Sunday, his Lordship the Bishop being celebrant, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., assistant priest, Rev. Father Collins (Holy Cross College) deacon, Rev. Father E. Lynch subdeacon, and Rev. Father Buckley (Holy Cross College) master of ceremonies. The sermon on the day's festival was preached by the Rev. Father Coffey. The music was Gounod's ‘Messe Solennelle.’ As the procession entered the choir sang ‘Ecce Sacerdos Magnus’ (Elgar), and the Offertory piece was ‘Haec Dies’ (Webbe). The Proper of the Mass was ‘Victimae Paschali’ (Bordonel) and a composition of Edmonds Tozer. The principal solos were taken by Mrs. Fraher (soprano), Mr. Carolin (tenor), and Mr. McGrath (bass). There was a very large congregation, this being also the case at the early Masses, when unusually large numbers approached the Holy Table. It being the first Sunday of the month, there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the last Mass until after the evening devotions, at which his Lordship presided. There was the usual procession in the evening, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. A sermon on the Sacred Heart was preached by Rev. Father E. Lynch. After devotions the members of the choir were entertained in St. Joseph's Hall by his Lordship the Bishop. Rev. Father Coffey presided, and on behalf of his Lordship and himself thanked the choir for their services, making special mention of Mr. Vallis and Miss Callan. Mr. Vallis briefly replied on behalf of the choir. The high altar on Easter Sunday and the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday were decorated with much taste by Misses Murphy and White.

The Masses and devotions in St. Joseph's Cathedral during Holy Week were very well attended. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant of Pontifical High Mass on Holy Thursday, Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G. (Oamaru), being assistant priest, Very Rev. Monsignor O'Leary (Lawrence) and Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore) deacons at the throne, Rev. Father Collins (Holy Cross College) deacon of the Mass, Rev. Father Woods (Oamaru) subdeacon, and Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., master of ceremonies. The music was rendered by the Dominican Nuns' choir. The Mass of the Presanctified on Good Friday was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay being assistant priest, Rev. Father Delany (South Dunedin) deacon, Rev. Father E. Lynch subdeacon, and Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies. The Passion was sung by Rev. Fathers Liston, Morkane, and Collins (Holy Cross College). On Saturday Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Collins, Rev. Father Woods being deacon, Rev. Father E. Lynch subdeacon, and Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies. The music was sung by the choir of the Dominican Nuns. The sermon on the Blessed Eucharist on Holy Thursday evening was preached by the Rev. Father O'Donnell (Queenstown), that on the Passion on Good Friday morning by Very Rev. Dean Burke (Invercargill), and that on the Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Friday evening by the Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore). His Lordship the Bishop presided at Tenebrae on the evenings of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and in addition to the clergy of the Cathedral,

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