

compel Catholic school-teachers to impart it to the children or lose their situations, notwithstanding that if these teachers imparted it they would violate their consciences. One object would be to educate public opinion. The great majority of their fellow-citizens were perfectly fair-minded men, and believed in secular education because they sincerely believed it was the only solution of the educational difficulties, and did not support it out of hostility to religion. To educate these fair-minded people as to how these difficulties could be overcome would be one of the objects of the Federation. The Catholics were educating 14,000 children in their own schools at their own expense, and, in addition, were paying their share towards the upkeep of the State schools, which they did not use. For years the Catholics were the only people who raised any objection to the secular system of education, but lately other objectors had risen up, and the agitation for the Bible in State schools had unwittingly done good by hastening the formation of the Catholic Federation. The Federation was not a political organisation, and did not touch politics except where politics touched religion. Catholics of every political color would be within its ranks, and the members could please themselves individually as to what party they belonged to. Discussion on party politics would be strictly barred at its meetings. But, supposing a man who wanted the Catholic vote was in favor of the Bible-in-schools referendum, Catholics of the same political color as that candidate would sink their party feelings and vote against him, because if Catholics did not look after their own welfare no one would. It often happened in international politics that Parliamentarians, for the common good, sank party feeling to support measures brought down by their bitterest opponents. To refute lies told about the Catholic Church would be another object of the Federation; also to check the influence of bad literature, including the cheap problem-novels which were doing so much harm, especially among women. He felt that the Federation was going to be a huge success. All that would be asked for was justice; not favors. He had so much confidence in the sense of fairness of the public generally that he felt that when misunderstanding was removed Catholics would be given the rights they claimed. At this stage Mr. W. B. Keany rendered a humorous item and Master B. O'Brien gave a violin solo, which were much appreciated. His Grace Archbishop Redwood, who was greeted with applause, said that he thoroughly enjoyed the lecture of his Coadjutor, and complimented him on the able manner in which he had dealt with the subject.

On the motion of Mr. H. F. O'Leary, seconded by Mr. R. P. Flanagan, Archbishop O'Shea was accorded a vote of thanks for his address.

The combined Wellington Federation parish committees are to be congratulated on arranging a series of lectures on subjects within the scope of the Federation, of which this was the first, and the hall has been again pencilled for the 17th July for a second lecture, which will be arranged for that date.

DUNEDIN.

There was a meeting of the executive of the Dunedin branch of the Catholic Federation in St. Joseph's Hall on Sunday afternoon. Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided and there was a very good attendance. After the transaction of the ordinary routine business, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—
'That the secretary be instructed to write to the other parishes of the diocese, pointing out that each parish committee is required to elect or appoint two representatives to the Diocesan Council of the Federation; asking that the names of delegates so appointed be sent to the secretary of the Dunedin branch, and requesting, if delegates have not been appointed, that steps be taken without delay to have them elected as required.'

'That the president be empowered on his own motion, or at the request of three members, to call a meeting of the committee.'

'That in cases of emergency the president, two vice-presidents, the secretary, and treasurer have power to act on behalf of the branch, and with instructions to report to the next meeting.'

It was resolved that a systematic canvass of the Catholics of the city and suburbs be made for the purpose of obtaining signatures to the petitions now in circulation, and also for the purpose of enrolling members of the Catholic Federation. The canvassers were expressly instructed to take every possible precaution against duplication of signatures to the petitions.

The parish was divided into districts, and canvassers were allotted to each district.

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