

Grace's accession to the episcopate is almost unique. Archbishop O'Shea is still only a little over forty years old; and it is rare indeed that an archbishop assumes the duties of his high position in such close and sympathetic touch with the young people of his flock, with whom the future of the Church is so intimately bound. On behalf of the Catholics of the Dominion we offer his Grace respectful congratulations; and assure him of our warmest wishes and earnest prayers for a long and successful career of service for the Master and His Church. *Ad multos et plenos annos.*

THE BAITING OF DR. GIBB

We publish elsewhere in this issue the 'Open Letter' to the Rev. Dr. Gibb in which the Very Rev. Dean Power, of Hawera, deals in vigorous and comprehensive fashion, and with his accustomed literary grace, with the questions presented at Dr. Gibb's Bible-in-schools meeting at Hawera, and with the Presbyterian divine's utter failure to fairly and squarely face the plain issues submitted to him. The whole of the questions and answers given at the meeting are reported in the *Hawera Star* of August 2; and they make extremely interesting reading. The points embodied in the questions were all exceedingly well taken; but perhaps the neatest and completest 'bowl out' to the lecturer was administered in connection with the questions relating to the religious test imposed upon the teachers by the League's scheme. The questioner stated that under the proposed system he considered a religious test would be introduced and asked the doctor if it was right that any teacher should be subjected to such a test. In reply, Dr. Gibb labored hard to show that no religious test was imposed. He quoted the Queensland lesson book as an example, contending that no Catholic teacher—and, by implication, no teacher at all—could take exception to those lessons, and stated that he would be quite willing that a Catholic teacher should supervise his child in the reading of those lessons.

The questioner prefaced his next question by instancing the case of a teacher who said to the children that he hoped they read their Bible. He did, but he did not believe a word of it. 'How,' asked the questioner, 'would you like your child to be taught in that manner?' With the innocence and rawness of a school boy, the impulsive and impetuous cleric put his head right into the noose. We quote the report: 'Dr. Gibb, with much feeling, said such a man should be put out of the school straight. He was moved with indignation to the very depths of his soul that any man should give utterance to such an expression. Such a man was a knave and should be driven out of the school.' And a minute before the lecturer had tried to show that the Bible lessons involved no religious test for the teacher! The questioner's natural and obvious retort was: 'The doctor says there is to be no religious test, but he has just stated that a certain class of man should be driven out of the school'—and the applause which followed showed that the audience thoroughly grasped the situation. League apologists have, without exception, shaped badly at question time; but we have thus far met with nothing quite so delicious as the way in which the hot-headed Dr. Gibb gave himself and his case away, and delivered himself helplessly into the hands of the enemy.

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

The Coadjutor-Archbishop of Wellington—impressive consecration ceremony. Pages 35, 33.

An 'Open Letter' to the Rev. Dr. Gibb by Dean Power—extraordinary evasive methods exhibited and exposed. Page 23. Dr. Gibb in the toils. Page 34.

Catholics and the Y.M.C.A.—how 'members' are manufactured in New Zealand. Page 21.

Politics and Sectarianism—a word about the Grey election. Page 21.

The Palmerston controversy—a final letter and a challenge. Page 43.

Notes

The Benediction Ceremonial

We draw the attention of our clerical readers to the translation of the Benediction ceremonial given in the *Ritus Servandus* recently issued by Burns and Oates, which appears elsewhere in this issue. The translation has been specially made for the *N.Z. Tablet*.

The 'Menace'

A Wellington correspondent sends us a copy of what, with cutting sarcasm, he describes as 'that truthful and peaceful paper, the *Menace*.' It was given to him by a Wellington citizen—a Protestant—holding an important public position. 'This gentleman was so disgusted with the paper,' writes our correspondent, 'that he wrote to the Postmaster-General, asking if it could not be prevented coming through the post as indecent literature.' All honor to our Protestant friend. Thank Heaven, New Zealand citizens, however Protestant they may be, have no stomach for filth of the *Menace* kind.

Still Running

League apologists up north are still devoting themselves to the healthy but not very heroic exercise of running away. Early in the present month the Rev. Isaac Jolly, M.A., one of the ablest of the League champions, was announced to 'reply to Rev. Dr. Cleary' at Paeroa; and as soon as Bishop Cleary was made aware of the fact he addressed a personal and pointed offer to Mr. Jolly, expressing his willingness to submit himself to relevant questioning by Mr. Jolly for one hour on the subject of his (Bishop Cleary's) attitude towards the Bible-in-schools proposals, and asking that he should be allowed to question Mr. Jolly for a like period, with the usual provisions regarding a time-limit for each answer and the right of each questioner to rise to a point of order. As an alternative, Bishop Cleary offered to meet Mr. Jolly or any other League leader in public debate on the subject of the League's scheme; and further generously undertook, if either proposal was accepted, to pay full hire of hall or theatre, at Paeroa or elsewhere, together with the fare of any League leader from Wellington, or elsewhere. As usual, both offers were emphatically declined. Similar offers have been sent to the League branches at Tauranga and Rotorua; and have been published in the local papers with excellent effects.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

His Lordship Bishop Verdon, who went to Wellington last week to assist at the consecration of Archbishop O'Shea, is expected back in Dunedin at the end of the week.

On the Feast of the Assumption Masses were celebrated at 6.30, 7, 8, and 11 o'clock at St. Joseph's Cathedral, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather there were good congregations.

Rev. Father Buckley presided at the meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club on Monday evening, when there was a fair attendance. The programme consisted of an instructive lecture by Mr. H. Gallagher, who, on the motion of Rev. Father Buckley, seconded by Mr. E. W. Spain, was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

A card tournament between members of the Hibernian Society and the U.A.O.D. (Otago Lodge) was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Tuesday evening, the former being the winners by 17 games to 15. During the evening songs were contributed by Bros. T. J. Hussey, Walker, W. Atwill, J. Carr, Beasley, F. Johns and Aston. Bro. Hussey (president of the Hibernian Society), who occupied the chair, in welcoming the visitors, pointed out that there was a sort of connection between the Druids and the Hibernians, as in the early days the Druids were held in high esteem in Ireland.

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