

DR. COHOLAN AND THE "DAY-LIARS."

The Bishop of Cork, writing to the *Times*, says: "The Government's White Book reproduces the story of alleged German interference in support of my appointment to the See of Cork, which appeared in the press in the autumn of 1917." The Bishop then gives the alleged telegram suggesting support for his appointment sent by Count Bernstorff, German Ambassador in Washington, to the German Foreign Office on August 23, 1916 and continues:—

"I had been assistant Bishop of Cork from my consecration on June 7, 1914, to the death of the Bishop of Cork, Monsignor O'Callaghan, O.P., on June 14, 1916. I had been Bishop of Cork since August 29, 1916. The alleged telegram of Count Bernstorff is dated August 23, 1916; and German influence should have been very powerful indeed to be able to procure within six days from the date of the telegram, even without a representative in Rome, my appointment to the See of Cork on August 29.

"I took no notice in the press of the newspaper reports. But I thought it my duty to write to the Holy Father; for in his many anxieties and sorrows from the war it would surely have added great and just displeasure and grief to have thought that one of his bishops had had recourse to an intrigue such as had been alleged to secure episcopal appointment. Accordingly I wrote to his Holiness through the Cardinal Secretary of State; and I had the honor of receiving through the Cardinal Secretary the following gracious reply, which I now give to the press for the first time. (I quote only the part of the Cardinal's letter which deals with the present subject):—

"Dal Vaticano, 29 14 1917....

"... Quant au prétendu bruit lequel aurait circulé dans la presse relativement à votre élection épiscopale, le Saint Père, qui vous entoure de Sa bienveillance, me charge encore de vous rassurer à ce sujet, et de vous persuader à ne tenir aucun compte de ces dires des journaux, comme étant dépourvus de tout fondement.

"Veuillez agréer, Monseigneur, l'hommage de mon entier dévouement en Notre Seigneur.— P. CARD. GASPARRI."

"Are we to suppose that the Government has republished this story without communicating with the British representative at the Vatican, that the Government has republished it knowing it to be valueless? Is it a case of 'Ex uno disce omnes'? Are the other alleged communications in the White Book equally valueless?"

FAMOUS GIRLS' SCHOOL DESTROYED.

A recent atrocity by the military in Ireland, which will shock the Irish race all over the world, is the destruction of St. Ita's School, Rathfarnham, Dublin, the celebrated girls' school, founded, like St. Enda's College, by Padraic Pearse, the leader of the Easter revolt of 1916, and his brother William, and since their execution conducted by their mother and sister.

Padraic Pearse, the first President of the Irish Republic, was a man who personified in himself the noblest traditions of the country he loved, and for which he sacrificed his life. From their earliest days both he and his brother, William James Pearse, were ardent students of Irish history and Irish language, and when they were both mere boys took a vow that they would work and, if need be, die for Ireland. Shy, earnest, rather pale, but strikingly handsome, Pearse had the appearance of the student and the scholar. He impressed all who came into touch with him as being at once an enthusiast and a practical man of affairs. As a teacher of a language class under the Gaelic League in 1899, he already showed that he had imbibed the very soul of the Gael. He was full of enthusiasm for Irish linguistic studies, and delved deeply into Irish folk-lore and early Irish music and poetry.

In 1901 Pearse was called to the Irish Bar, and was the recipient of many congratulations. He then set to work to found St. Enda's and St. Ita's Schools at Rath-

farnham, Co. Dublin. These two were the only Irish colleges founded on a conception of all that was best in Irish life and tradition. There were other Irish colleges, such as that at Ballingearry, where the Irish language was taught; but St. Enda's and St. Ita's were colleges where a thorough modern education was provided in all its branches, and where the spirit of the Gael was predominant in everything. Had Pearse done nothing else than found these schools, and thus demonstrate how a modern system of education need not exclude the true spirit of the Gael, he would have accomplished a work deserving of the gratitude of every man, woman, and child of the Irish race. Apart entirely from its national significance, St. Enda's was a most important contribution to the science of pedagogy, and its importance will be realised and conceded later when men turn away from destruction to peaceful pursuits.

MARIST FATHERS FAREWELLED.

Prior to the departure of the Marist Fathers from Greymouth a popular farewell was tendered them, the local Opera House on the occasion being crowded to capacity. The Mayor (Mr. J. D. Lynch) presided, and spoke eulogistically regarding the departing priests. Rev. Fathers Aubry, Lacroix, and McGrath. Speeches in a like complimentary strain were made by Mr. H. F. Doogan and Mr. J. Kennedy. Each of the Marist Fathers, in turn, responded. A cordial welcome was extended by Mr. Doogan, on behalf of the residents of Greymouth, to Fathers Long, Shore, and O'Regan, successors to the Marist Fathers in the parish, who each made appropriate acknowledgment. An excellent musical programme was contributed to by the convent orchestra and several selected vocalists. At the Greymouth and Cobden convents and St. Columba Club the departing priests were tendered farewells.

Kumara

The parishioners of St. Patrick's Church, Kumara, assembled in the schoolroom to bid farewell to Rev. Father O'Hare, prior to his leaving to take up duties at Christchurch. Messrs. John Gilbert and J. Rochford eulogised the services of the departing priest, and made a presentation of a travelling rug. Rev. Dr. Kennedy also spoke of the good work of Father O'Hare, and predicted a warm welcome for his successor, Rev. Father Bonetto. Father O'Hare thanked the speakers for their kind words, and said he valued their present very highly and it would always remind him of the pleasant times he had spent in Kumara. The children of St. Patrick's School presented Father O'Hare with a handsome travelling bag as a token of esteem and wished him prosperity in his new home.

BISHOP HAYDEN ON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

"During the past 12 months I have travelled in many lands," said the Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes, Dr. Hayden, on a recent Sunday, at the blessing of the new school at Dulwich Hill. He had taken a great interest in the school question. It was his opinion that in no country, except Ireland, were the Catholic children so carefully attended to as regards education, as they were in Australia. It was true they had much to learn from America in many respects; for instance, its big universities and fashionable boarding schools, the Knights of Columbus, the output of literature; but that country has not Catholic schools in almost every town like Australia. For this the Catholic people have every reason to congratulate themselves. The success was due to the zeal and devotion of the Sisterhoods, who went into the bush and gathered around them the children of the settler, the boundary-rider, and imparted to them the truths of religion. After referring to the sacrifices made by the Sisters of many years ago, his Lordship said that the present day conditions were not to be compared to those of 50 years ago. There still remains much missionary work in Australia, and he would cordially welcome any girls to assist the devoted Sisters who were doing such grand work in his extensive diocese.