

freedom of small nations, that pledged to Ireland the liberty she said she was fighting to win for Poland and Belgium. Is is any source of joy to remember that through our Orangeman, Lord Limavaddy, we stand beside her in the market-place of the world to-day? Did he (or his fellows in Parliament) raise a voice against her crimes, a voice for humanity, for honor, for justice? We know that they did not, and New Zealand is fallen so low that she is unable to feel ashamed. We are, indeed, in the abyss. We went down merrily, while Mr. Massey and his merry men denounced those who uttered words of warning. Is there a single person in the Dominion to-day foolish enough to think that they can get us out of the mire now?

Sydney Honors Bishop Dwyer: Great Popular Demonstration

The great Town Hall of Sydney was packed to its limits on Monday evening, and thousands were unable to gain admission, when the citizens of Sydney and suburbs gathered to show their appreciation of the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Wagga Wagga, and to sympathise with him and the Sisters of Mount Erin Convent, in the ordeal from which they have emerged so triumphantly (says *The Catholic Press* for July 21). The crowd outside and within the hall, probably exceeded 12,000. The daily press, which boomed the recent "flag" meeting as an unprecedented throng, were strangely wanting in enthusiasm about Monday night's meeting. Yet, with the exception of the protest meeting against the deportation of Father Jerger, at which Archbishop Mannix spoke, it is safe to say that no such overflow ever congregated in the grounds of the Town Hall. The great swelling cheers from the crowd outside, where they were addressed by the Very Rev. Dr. M. J. O'Reilly, and Messrs. McTiernan, O'Driscoll, O'Donoghue, and Boatwright, at times compelled the speakers within to pause; yet the *Daily Telegraph* representative was either deaf to them, or they were suppressed by the office blue pencil. The space so lavishly placed at the disposal of Orange nonentities when it suited the *Daily Telegraph* was not available for decent citizens. The *Sun*, which used to hunt about the city for Liguori "copy," and which splashed lavishly over the flag meeting, was quite unaware of Monday night's meeting. One must, of course, make some allowance for the liberal expenditure of cash by the flag-flappers, though the daily papers would probably resent the accusation that their enthusiasm could be bought.

Inside the hall the seating accommodation was hopelessly limited. Floor, galleries, and platform were closely packed. Practically all the Catholic clergy and all the leading Catholic laity were present, and when the Bishop of Wagga appeared on the platform with his Grace the Archbishop, who was to preside, the scene was indescribable. The thousands of people rose and cheered again and again, and there was no chance of beginning the meeting until the great gathering had sung "Faith of Our Fathers." The note of enthusiasm was retained during the speeches, which were kept on a high level. In the cheering, the Bishop's legal adviser, Mr. Purcell, and particularly Mr. J. L. Campbell, were frequently remembered. The complete organisation of the meeting, and the programme which passed without the slightest hitch, reflected great credit on Mr. C. Lawlor, L.C., General Secretary of the Catholic Federation, who made all arrangements. The great collection was expeditiously and efficiently carried out by members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, under the experienced direction of Messrs. W. J. Coogah, L.C., and H. G. Bartlett, who managed the details so well that the Archbishop was able to announce the result, over £1,500, before the close of the meeting.

The Archbishop Opens the Meeting.

Punctually at 8 o'clock, his Grace rose to open the proceedings. When the resounding cheers subsided, his Grace said that it was his duty to preside at the great

meeting. They were actuated by a spirit of religion and charity, and believed in every article of the Apostles' Creed and the Commandments. Therefore, we do not fear men. We love mankind, and, fearing God, reverence His ministers. We may be the lowliest of God's creatures, not fit, perhaps, to touch the latchet of the shoes of the poorest, but are successors of the Apostles, and charged by Christ to feed His flock. The nearest, consecrated to God, were the priest, the brother and the nun; Christ, while remaining with us, left His mother to us, in the person of the saintly nun. We recognise special merit in the manner in which the Bishop of Wagga maintained the dignity and responsibility of his office. He has practically been before the civil court. Because his case was *sub judice*, they did not touch even the fringe of it—and let speakers mind that. But there was a bill of costs, and they were there that night to give weight to this expression of their appreciation by contributing such a sum as would flow in proudly from all parts of the Commonwealth. As Metropolitan of the Province, it was his duty to be there, but the presence of that large gathering made that duty a glory. He announced, amidst applause, that he would head the list with £100.

One specially dear to his Lordship, and one who was his spiritual father, the Bishop of Goulburn regretted that he was unable to be present and forwarded a cheque for £50. (Applause.)

The Mayor of Wagga telegraphed congratulations from the people there.

The First Resolution.

The first resolution was moved by Mr. P. S. Cleary, K.S.S., President of the Catholic Federation, who said the motive which brought the large audience together, and the immense crowd who were unable to enter the hall, was to show their sympathy with the Bishop of Wagga Wagga and the devoted nuns at Mount Erin in the cruel ordeal which had been forced upon them by an unworthy element in Australian life. It was not permissible to comment on the lawsuit, which is supposed to be still pending—(laughter)—but he could refer to the dark influences that were behind it. One of the daily papers recently interviewed an official of the Orange Lodge, who spoke about the verdict being against his party. It is thus admitted that it was not the liberty or the welfare of the girl concerned that was in the minds of these megalomaniacs, but anxiety to besmirch Catholics and the Catholic Church. Poor little mosquitoes of a day! How absurdly serious do they take their buzz against the Church which has withstood the pests of 20 centuries. Let them look into their own affairs, and see how their false ideals of Christian charity have earned for them the contempt of all decent people, and have emptied their conventicles, while paganism unabashed stalks through their midst. They would be better occupied if they labored to restore Christian practices to the homes and the lives of their own adherents.

It was fortunate indeed that the recent attack which they had so carefully framed was carried to a finish. It served to clear away the fetid atmosphere with which their calumnies and whisperings had surrounded it. How they must have writhed at the tribute paid by the Presbyterian Judge of the Supreme Court to the kindnesses and uprightness of the Sisters, and his expressed contempt for the unworthy tactics employed to malign them. He had, of course, nothing before him about the abominable campaign of calumny which they wove around their helpless victim, hideous enough to shame even a barbarian. The gullible public, attracted by the "revelations" which these miscreants, abetted by the daily press, led them to expect, must have been cruelly undeceived.

Not even a Marie Corelli or an Elinor Glyn could weave a romance out of the story of a broom. A great Irishman once wrote the *Tale of a Tub*, and might, if he were living, draw a satire on human credulity from the *Tale of a Dentist's Basin*; but such topics are now quite out of fashion, and could not be woven into a vampire picture of the Theda Bara type.

Probably when his Lordship took action he little realised the year of worry that was before him. But even if he did, there is no doubt he would not fail in his duty; and that it was his duty they had the dictum of a Supreme