

For generations class legislation in England has been steadily sharpening the contrast between the House of Have and the House of Want (as Henry George calls them). Boyle O'Reilly thus sounds the note of warning as to its possible results:—

'Beware with your Classes! Men are men, and a cry in the night is a fearful teacher;  
When it reaches the heart of the masses, then they need but a sword for a judge and preacher.  
'Take heed, for your Juggernaut pushes hard; God holds the doom that its day completes;  
It will dawn like a fire when the track is barred by a barricade in the city streets.'

It is easy for Parliament to pass academic resolutions, and for Ministers to talk unctuous platitudes about 'prudence' and 'patience'; but in the meantime the workers in the street and their children in the rookeries of the big cities are starving. With the lead given by New Zealand and Australia and Switzerland and Holland and Germany, we hope that the British Parliament will go, and go speedily, beyond the mere affirmation of principles. A Parliament that spent £250,000,000 in money (plus thousands of useful lives) to increase the fat dividends of a coterie of mostly foreign mining magnates on the Rand, might reasonably be expected to invest a small fraction of that sum to mend and end a condition of things that is a standing reproach to Britain.

## Notes

### Socialism

In the 'Otago Daily Times' of last Monday the place of honor is held by an exceedingly able and well-written leading article on the recently published pastoral letter on Socialism by the Archbishop of Wellington. Our esteemed local contemporary gives strong support, practically all along the line, to the views expressed by his Grace regarding the phase of socialism with which he deals. Not alone the destructive, but the constructive, criticism of the Archbishop is greeted with a hearty endorsement by the 'Otago Daily Times.' It accepts, as the ultimate settlement of a very vexed and complicated question, the plea of the pastoral for 'social reform along the four lines of protected labor, of organized labor, of insured labor, and, lastly, of diffusive ownership.' 'Of these,' says our morning contemporary, 'the fourth is the most important.' And it views with approval the following proposition contained in the pastoral:—

'The majority of the people should not live merely from hand to mouth, but should have, each family, its small capital—some partnership, shares, or stocks, but principally a small plot of mother earth, from the size of a garden to the size of a small farm, that no creditor could touch, that belonged to the family rather than to the individual.'

New Zealand leads the world in the success of its efforts for a wider diffusion of wealth directly in the matter of the usufruct or ownership of land, indirectly by means of its industrial legislation. Much has been done among us for the organisation, protection, and insurance of labor. But much still remains to be done before ideal conditions are attained. The policy of diffusive ownership still tends with us towards the little sacrosanct family capital—the New Zealand equivalent of the 'three acres and a cow.' Well, perhaps Micah's prophecy is not, after all, so far off from fulfillment: 'Every man shall sit under his vine and under his fig-tree, and there shall be none to make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken.' Yes, that is it. The Lord of hosts must be in the new social reform if the pleasant idyll of good men's hopes is ever to be realised—if it is ever to be more substantial than the stuff that dreams are made of.

## DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On Wednesday the annual sports meeting in connection with St. Patrick's Day took place in Lawrence, the annual concert being held in the evening.

The handsome new church being erected in Naseby (parochial district of Ranfurly) is approaching completion. We understand that it will be blessed and opened shortly after Easter.

At a meeting of St. Joseph's choir on Thursday evening a presentation of a travelling rug was made to Mr. B. Stevens, who has been connected with the choir for a number of years. The presentation was made by Mr. P. Carolin.

The new Catholic chapel at Waikaka (says the 'Southern Standard') is approaching completion, and is to be blessed and opened shortly by the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon. The building, which occupies a commanding position in the township, is 40ft long by 22ft wide, the contractor being Mr. M. Hay, of Gore, and the architect Mr. W. Willis.

The following (says the 'Wakatip Mail') are the results of the harmony examinations in connection with the Trinity College, London, held last December at the Dominican Convent:—Junior grade—Pearl Evans (honors), Chrissie Bonner (honors), Mary M'Carthy, Jack Aldridge. Preparatory grade—Rita M'Neill, Georgina and Letitia Constable, Colleen Evans, Mary Boyle, Nellie O'Connell, Florence Layburn, J. M'Chesney, and Daniel M'Mullan.

The annual concert in aid of the funds of the Waikaka Catholic church was held in the Coronation Hall on Friday evening (says the 'Mataura Ensign'), and proved one of the best of similar events for a long time. Mr. John Maher presided, and the Rev. Father Keenan closed the proceedings with a happy speech. The concert programme (every item of which was encored) was as follows:—Songs—Misses Brown, Dunn (Riversdale), Logan (Gore), Gulliver (Dunedin), and Herlihy (Waikaka), Messrs. Delargey, Sproat, and Rawlinson. The various accompaniments were tastefully played by Misses Leahy, Brown, and Delargey, Miss Brown also contributing an excellent violin solo. The committee, consisting of Messrs. J. Maher, Herlihy, Delargey, Monaghan, O'Reilly, and Crowley, all worked most assiduously to secure the success of the entertainment and the enjoyment of the very large audience patronising it.

For some time past (writes an occasional correspondent) the ladies of Macraes had been energetically preparing for a bazaar, and on St. Patrick's Day the result of their efforts took a practical shape. The display of goods, useful and ornamental, was the admiration of all, and it is needless to say that such an exhibition was a pronounced success. The one large stall on the stage had a splendid stock of goods of all kinds, and the ladies in charge, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Callery, and Mrs. Fraser, were assisted by a number of young ladies belonging to Macraes, while the Misses Ryan, O'Connell, and Kenny came from Hyde. Besides the bazaar, the usual St. Patrick's Day sports were held, and in the morning the local choir was assisted by the Hyde choir, so that St. Patrick's Day on this occasion was becomingly celebrated in the quiet old digging township of Macraes. At the close of the bazaar Father Lynch paid a well-merited compliment to the workers in general, and thanked the public for their very liberal patronage and the graceful manner in which they had assisted to make the bazaar such a remarkable success.

On Sunday, which was the next following the feast of St. Patrick, there was Solemn High Mass at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, at 11 o'clock. The Rev. Father O'Reilly was celebrant, Rev. Father Howard, deacon, Rev. M. Ryan, subdeacon. Rev. Father Cleary was master of ceremonies, and also preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, 'taking for his text 'Let us give praise to men of renown.' The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Deehan, gave an excellent rendering of the music—Farmer's Mass in B flat. Mr. E. H. Eagar (choirmaster) presided at the organ. At the nine o'clock Mass and also at the Mass on St. Patrick's Day the children sang the music in the Gregorian chant. There was a very large congregation at Vespers when the Rev. Father O'Reilly preached, taking for his text, 'Go out of thy country; leave thy father's house, and go into the land that I will show thee.' The preacher in an eloquent peroration gave a history of the Catholic faith in the Green Isle from the time of St. Patrick, portraying in vivid terms the many vicissitudes undergone, through which the faith instilled in the hearts of the Irish people by St. Patrick remained unshaken. During the offertory the choir rendered a hymn of praise to St. Patrick, using the old traditional melody. At the close the congregation sang the hymn 'Faith of our fathers.'

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