

PUBLICATIONS

Catechism of Christian Doctrine. Published by order of his Holiness Pius X.

This is a practically new, concise, and very complete catechism, prepared and published by the special order and authority of Pope Pius X., and translated and edited by the Rev. J. Hagan, D.D., Vice-Rector of the Irish College, Rome. Until formally adopted by the Hierarchy of the Province it can hardly take the place of the catechism now in actual use, but to teachers and parents and all who have to do with the religious instruction of the young it will be found invaluable as a supplementary manual of Christian doctrine. The main difference between the new publication and current catechisms is that the former is clearer, fuller, and more comprehensive, dealing with many points and topics of considerable interest and importance that are altogether omitted from existing manuals. For example, we have the question, 'Can God also do evil?' and the answer: 'God can do no evil, because being infinite goodness *He can will no evil*; but *He tolerates evil* so that His creatures may be free, nay, from evil He is even able to bring forth good.' Here we have, in a few lines, a complete theological answer to the oft-repeated question, Why does God permit the present war? Again, the ever-recurring question as to the salvation of those outside the visible Church is thus admirably dealt with: 'Q. Is anyone saved outside the Church? A. He who is outside the Church *through his own fault*, and dies without perfect contrition, is not saved; but he who is outside the Church *through no fault of his own and leads a good life*, can be saved by that love of God above all things which *unites him to God, and in spirit, to the Church*, that is to say, *to the soul of the Church.*'

Many similar examples might be given. In addition to the main portion of regular catechetical instruction there is a preliminary chapter on 'First Notions of the Christian Faith,' and several valuable appendices, comprising a brief sketch of the history of divine revelation, notes on the Christian festivals, tables on the ecclesiastical year, showing the feasts and fasts, and instruction for Christian parents and teachers. The translation is admirably done, the English being clear, crisp, and very readable and attractive in style. The edition under notice has been published by E. J. Dwyer, George street, Sydney, at the specially low price of 1s, and, as might be expected, is already in great demand. We cordially recommend the publication.

We have also to acknowledge receipt of the following excellent publications of the Australian Catholic Truth Society:—*Catholicism and Peace*, by Rev. Joseph Keating, S.J.; *Mates*, by Miriam Agatha; *The Children's Army*, by Miriam Agatha; *Ludwig Windthorst*, by P. S. Cleary, L.C.; *Points in Catholic Polity*, a Catholic Federation pamphlet; *Personal Prohibition Needed—Not National*, by Very Rev. W. J. Lockington, S.J., with a Foreword by his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Melbourne; and *The Peasant Pontiff*, a life sketch of Pius X., by M.A.S.

A CORRECTION.

In our recent review of the new People's Edition of the Bible the price was, by a typographical error, stated as 2s 6d instead of 3s 6d. As a result of the review Mr. Dwyer informs us that he has had a number of inquiries, and he asks us to state that the price of this very excellent edition is not 2s 6d but 3s 6d, post free 4s 3d.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY, WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society met on Monday evening, October 18, under the presidency of Bro. J. P. McGowan, B.P., at St. Patrick's Hall. There was a large attendance of members, including the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., and Bro. G. J. Sellars, P.D.P. Notices of motion tabled at a previous meeting were moved by Bro. P. D. Hoskins. Under the existing rules, representative conferences of delegates of branches take place triennially. These meetings are movable, and are attended by about 80 delegates. The amendment proposed to hold these conferences annually, and to reduce the expense of such conferences it is proposed to make fifteen sub-districts with the right to elect one delegate for 500 members or less; over 500 members two delegates, but no more. This reduces the representation from about 80 to 30, and it is claimed that a conference of that number, whilst less expensive, is capable of legislating far better, as a large conference proves unwieldy, and experience teaches that at such large meetings the principal work is relegated to a committee, whose deliberations are generally agreed to by the remainder of the conference. It is also claimed that the fact of holding annual conferences must of necessity dispose of legislation more expeditiously than triennial meetings, because in the event of an annual conference postponing a measure to the next meeting one year only elapses, against three years if the same condition applied under the existing rules. Other motions tabled practically provided the necessary machinery for holding sub-district meetings and the appointment of sub-district delegates. Provision is also made for placing the office of district deputy on a better status and the abolition of half-yearly district and branch meetings. A very important motion was that providing for the investment of the funeral fund in the cities of Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Wellington. At the present time something like £14,000 district funds, including the funeral fund, which is consolidated, is invested in freehold security in Auckland. The motion tabled provides that, on the recommendation of the senior branch trustees in the cities named supported by the report of an independent valuer, the district trustees may advance money in the four centres.

The balance sheet for September quarter and quarterly report were presented and discussed. A roll of honor has been placed in the lodgeroom to remind members of their fallen confreres. A motion of condolence with his Grace Archbishop Redwood in the loss he had sustained through the death of his brother, Mr. C. Redwood, was carried by the members in respectful silence. Owing to the war it was decided to forego the celebrating the forty-first anniversary of the branch. Bros. J. J. L. Burke and P. D. Hoskins were appointed to represent the society at the Conference of Friendly Societies dealing with the demands made by the medical attendants for increased remuneration.

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