

doubtless, in practice be exempt from service. If the measure is passed in its present form, however, it will be incumbent on the clergy to give attention to the matter, and to see that notice of appeal is duly posted, by registered letter, to the Commandant of the Defence Forces, Wellington, within ten days after the day of the gazettement of the notice by which the appellant was called up for service. Possibly some arrangement might be adopted whereby the Bishop of the diocese could lodge an appeal for all the priests of military age under his jurisdiction. There still remains the case of the theological students. It is possible, of course, that they might be regarded as coming under the scope of the clauses and regulations already referred to, but it is very desirable that there should be no doubt upon the matter. It would be a very grave injury to religion—and therefore to the best interests of the community—if the Church's supply of clergy should be cut off at its source; and nothing but an absolutely over-mastering necessity—which, admittedly, does not at present exist—could be held to justify such an extreme proposal. In this connection it is instructive to note that the British Army Council has issued the following Instruction in regard to the exemption of the theological students:—The undermentioned students may be excepted from the provisions of the Military Service Act, 1916, if they so desire:—(a) Church of England: Theological students who have already entered on their professional studies in immediate preparation for holy orders. (b) Roman Catholic Church: Students who have entered on their special studies in immediate preparation for holy orders. (c) Presbyterians: Licentiates of the Presbyterian Churches and students now completing their final year of preparation for the holy ministry. (d) Congregationalists, Baptists, Primitive and United Methodists: Students who have already entered on professional studies in immediate preparation for the ministry. (e) Wesleyan Methodists: All men already accepted by the Wesleyan Conference for the Wesleyan ministry, doing duty as probationer ministers, or in training for the ministry in the theological colleges. (f) Jewish students undergoing the qualifying course of study. Doubtless this regulation will also be adopted here; but it would probably be well that it should be authoritatively brought under the notice of the Government so that the matter might be placed on a proper footing from the outset.

Notes

'And No 'Usband'

We have recorded several stories of the entertaining experiences of English visitors to the homes of Tommies who are at the front, all going to show with what cheerful resignation the English working women are enduring the absence of their husbands. Here is one of the latest: 'A sympathetic visitor asked a charwoman what she thought of the war. The reply was much to the point: "Wot! a pound a week and no 'usband? Why, it's 'eaven. It's too good to last."'

The Editor and His Friends

The Catholic editor has his full share of candid critics, but even the most peccant of us have not often been favored with such a pointed missive as that directed the other day by a reader of *Catholics and Prohibition* to the editor of that strenuous American bi-monthly: 'I do not want your crazy paper. . . . I have enquired at various times as to who you are and every time I was assured you are a crazy fool. . . . Am I going to stop something I enjoy because you are not to be trusted with it? Go and have your beer. Be a man, not a fool.' There is, at least, no beating about the bush in that gentle communication.

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Occasionally—very occasionally—the editor has a directly opposite experience, and it sometimes proves

even more upsetting. Such, apparently, was the case with the *Kansas Tribune*, which relates the following veracious story: 'A fellow dropped into the office the other day and ordered the paper, and we were well pleased. Said it was a good paper, and we were glad. Said it was more than worth the money to any man of intelligence, and we were tickled. Said it was the mainstay of the town, and we were super-tickled. Said it was the greatest booster and the most reliable town-builder and developer in this whole community, and we yelled with joy. Paid for his paper, and—we slid gently to the floor in blissful unconsciousness. Nature had reached its limit.' No doubt it was a shock, but most editors will be willing to take the risk, and we hope no prospective subscriber will be scared by our recital of the incident from putting us to the test in similar fashion.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The annual meeting of the Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation takes place on Friday evening.

St. Joseph's Parish School, the Sacred Heart School (North-East Valley), and the Kaikorai School were inspected by the Board of Education Inspectors on Monday and Tuesday.

A social evening was held in St. Joseph's Hall on May 24 for the purpose of saying farewell to Lieutenant Atwill and Private M. O'Dwyer, who were on final leave. Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., in presenting Lieutenant Atwill with a token of esteem, referred to the high regard in which he had been held by his fellow-members of St. Joseph's Club. Lieutenant Atwill had, he said, by his own unaided efforts, made for himself a promising career, and now, from a military standpoint, he had commenced to emulate the promising success he had shown in civil life. Father Coffey paid a very warm tribute to Mr. Atwill's sterling character as a Catholic, and concluded by wishing him every success and a safe return. Rev. Father D. O'Neill (South Dunedin) also expressed his very high admiration for Mr. Atwill, whom he had known for a number of years as a member of the South Dunedin congregation. He had always found him capable, and one ever ready to assist in whatever Church work that required his help. Mr. Gallagher, as a contemporary of Lieutenant Atwill in St. Joseph's Club, referred to the high appreciation in which members had always held him, and to the enthusiasm he had shown in his efforts on behalf of the club. Lieutenant Atwill, in reply, thanked the speakers for their kind remarks, and his fellow-members for their substantial gift. He gave an interesting description of life in camp, and in conclusion trusted that it would not be long before he was again amongst them. Rev. Father Corcoran, on behalf of St. Joseph's Ladies' Club, presented Private O'Dwyer with a pair of military hair brushes, and in doing so spoke of the kindness shown by Private O'Dwyer in assisting to furnish the Ladies' Club room. Private O'Dwyer suitably replied, after which supper was handed round by the ladies.

The interest taken in St. Joseph's Harriers' one-mile maiden race was made manifest by the number of competitors and spectators who turned out last Saturday at Forbury Park. Twenty runners faced the starter (Mr. H. Burk). Passing the stand the first time, A. Neil and F. Neil were running together, with L. McAllen and A. J. Tourell in close attendance, and J. O. Burk was leading from J. Burk (his son). The scratch man, M. Kennelly, had reduced the distance between the limit men and himself, and, although he was running well, it was seen that he had no hope. Coming up the straight to the finish L. McAllen went to the front, and won a well-judged race. A. Neil, who tried to overtake his rival in the final dash, finished second, with A. J. Tourell third. Result:—L. McAllen (17sec), actual time, 5min 29sec, 1; A. Neil