

We have no desire to raise the sectarian issue in any respect whatever; but we do say that the bayonet thrust of a Catholic soldier is as good as the bayonet thrust of any other soldier, and that if he makes the Great Sacrifice, his belief in regard to the education of his children is entitled not only to respect, but to the fullest consideration, and ought in justice to be carried out.

A copy of this letter has also been sent to the Hon. Colonel Heaton Rhodes.

Awaiting your reply,

I remain, very faithfully yours,

GEO. GIRLING BUTCHER,  
Secretary and Organiser N.Z.C.F.

#### HON. G. W. RUSSELL'S REPLY.

Wellington, September 21, 1916.

Dear Sir, I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, re the offer of the Hon. Colonel R. H. Rhodes to contribute £1000 as the nucleus of a fund to establish Kitchener Memorial Scholarships.

Your remarks are carefully noted, and I agree with your contention that a Kitchener Scholarship won by a Catholic child should be allowed to be undertaken at a Catholic seminary approved by the authorities; otherwise Catholic children would be debarred from participating in the benefits of the scheme, which is intended to be a recognition of the patriotism and self-sacrifice of all New Zealand soldiers.

I am not aware of the terms upon which Colonel Rhodes has made his gift. Upon them his decision must, of course, be final. I am communicating with him on the point. As, however, the matter must come under the review of the Minister of Education, may I suggest you should also state your views on this important subject to the Hon. J. A. Hanson.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. W. RUSSELL,  
Minister of Internal Affairs.

G. Girling-Butcher, Esq.,  
Secretary and Organiser,  
N.Z. Catholic Federation, Wellington.

#### PRECIS OF REPLIES OF OTHER MINISTERS.

Hon. J. Allen, Acting Prime Minister—'Is communicating with the Hon. Colonel Rhodes, and on receipt of his reply will consult with his colleagues.'

Hon. Dr. McNab—'Is not aware of the terms laid down for the scholarship, but presumes that they will be indicated by those organising it. Is forwarding the letter to Colonel Heaton Rhodes.'

Hon. A. Myers—'I observe the representations which you have made, and when the matter comes up for decision shall be pleased to give it my best consideration.'

Hon. Mr. Herries—'Your representations are noted, and will have consideration.'

Hon. Mr. Herdman—'I have noted the views you have expressed on behalf of the Catholic Federation as to what the position will be of Catholic scholars who may be successful in winning a Kitchener Memorial Scholarship, and I shall be glad to confer with the Hon. the Minister of Education in the matter.'

#### Christchurch North

October 9.

Miss F. Williams has kindly consented to act as matron of the Catholic Girls' Club, pending the arrival of Miss Johnson, who is visiting Australia.

The members of the St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society were well represented at their monthly Communion at the 7 o'clock Mass on Sunday last.

The collection for the diocesan charities will be taken up in St. Mary's and suburban churches on Sunday next. This year it will be devoted to the Field Service Fund for our Catholic soldiers.

At the monthly meeting of the Children of Mary Sodality, held on October 1, in the chapel of the Sisters of Mercy, six aspirants were received into the sodality. The ceremony was performed by their spiritual director (Rev. Father Hoare, S.M.), who delivered an appropriate address on 'Devotion to our Lady.'

Sergeant Ernest J. O'Donoghue (killed in action in France) is the eldest son of Mr. M. O'Donoghue, of Norman's road, Papanui. He also leaves a wife and three children, for whom much sympathy is felt. Deceased was a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for a number of years. His two younger brothers are at present in camp.

The following is a list of the goods sent in to the Catholic headquarters of the Red Cross by the St. Mary's Class: 40 pairs socks, 600 swabs, 18 handkerchiefs, 2 shorts, 1 balaclava, 1 bed jacket, 4 treasure bags, 3 limb pillow-cases, 12 girdles, 3 scarves, 2 under-pants, 1 flannel vest, 3 body belts, 3 flannel pyjamas, 6 doctors' coats. The class is at present engaged in making articles of clothing, etc., for the hospital ship Marama, which accounts for the small amount of ordinary work for the month.

The St. Mary's Tennis Club held their opening meeting on Sunday afternoon, October 1, when there was a large attendance of members and friends. Those present included the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Rev. Fathers Hoare and Seymour, S.M., Rev. Father Kelly (Puhoi, Auckland), and Sir George and Lady Clifford. Sir George Clifford, in an appropriate speech, declared the court open. Dean Regnault, S.M. (president) addressed the gathering, and spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be associated with the club, as he found that its members were always active workers in all parish affairs, and wished the club every success. The committee provided a very enjoyable afternoon tea, after which several friendly games were indulged in.

#### COMMERCIAL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, October 10, 1916, as follows:

Rabbitskins.—Prime winter does, to 44½d; second winter does, to 31d; prime winter bucks, to 34d; early autumn, to 29½d; incoming, to 25d; outgoing, to 24½d; fawns, to 28½d; second fawns, to 20½d; prime winter blacks, to 88d; second winter blacks, to 71d; outgoing black, to 44½d; hareskins, to 15½d; horse-hair, to 19d per lb; catskins, from 2d to 9d each. Sheepskins.—Our next sale will be held on Tuesday, 17th inst. Hides. Quotations: Ox hides, extra stout, to 13½d; stout heavy, to 12½d; medium, to 11½d; cow hides, extra stout, to 11½d; medium and heavy weights, to 10½d; light, 10d to 10½d; damaged and inferior ox and cow hides, 6d to 9d; yearlings, 9d to 10½d; calfskins, best, 12d to 13d; medium, 10½d to 11½d; damaged and inferior, 3d to 9d per lb; horse hides, from 7s 6d to 15s 6d each. Oats.—The market remains as last reported, with a good inquiry for prime Gartons and sparrowbills. Prime milling, 3s; good to best feed, 2s 10d to 2s 11d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat.—Prime milling velvet, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; Tuscan, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; best whole fowl wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; medium, 4s to 4s 2d per bushel (sacks extra). Potatoes.—Choice freshly picked tables are receiving most attention, and for these late values can be obtained. Medium and inferior quality is hard to quit. Choice tables, £8 5s to £8 10s; best, £8 to £8 5s; medium, £7 5s to £7 15s per ton (sacks in). Chaff.—Buyers are confining their operations to lines of choice heavy oaten sheaf which meets with a ready sale at quotations. Best oaten sheaf, £3 15s to £4; medium, £3 10s to £3 15s per ton (sacks extra).

#### FIELD SERVICE FUND

Miss Nellie Walls, Patutahi ... ..	£0 10 0
Mrs. Cavanagh, Ohaupo ... ..	0 7 0

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