

THE UNDER-SECRETARY AT A NURSES' HOME.

Presiding the other week at the annual meeting of St. Laurence's Catholic Home for Nurses in Dublin, at which the Bishop of Canea was present, Sir William Patrick Byrne, K.C.V., C.B., Under-Secretary for Ireland, said, although an Irishman, he had spent most of his public life in England. It was nine or ten years since he was in Ireland, when he had officially to visit most parts of the country, and he gained at that time a thorough knowledge of the needs for an institution such as this. It was a matter of great regret that financial considerations should have limited the possibilities of the good work of the Home, but that fact should, after all, be but a strong incentive to them all to support it to the utmost of their power. No words could be too strong in recommending the Home to their benevolent consideration. The Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, said he greatly welcomed the presence of Sir William Byrne in giving to that meeting and the institution the influence of his presence. He strongly urged the advantage of co-ordination in respect of many institutions having the same or like objects. But his duty was to propose a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman, who he hoped would discharge his duties with satisfaction to the Government and to the people over whom he would have jurisdiction.

THE MORAL OF WEST CORK.

Both the *Daily Independent* and the *Irish Times* are silent on the subject of West Cork (says the *Free-man's Journal*). They had been persuading their readers that the Irish Party were down and out, that the country was panting to get rid of them, and here in a constituency of which faction had the lease the people have risen up of their own will and got rid of faction for ever. Silence in face of such a flat contradiction of the campaign of delusion was the only thing left to the campaigners. The result is, indeed, a significant event. It is a confounding blow against the attempt to set up a Murphyite Dictatorship. The first object of the Dictator was to kill the labor movement. As he explained in the Dublin High Court, he precipitated the bitter struggle of 1913 because he thought the time had come to settle accounts with the labor leaders, after the manner of a capitalist Castlereagh, in other words, he 'exploded the insurrection.' The defeat of the men was, however, incomplete. Larkin was got rid of but a more formidable, because more intelligent and cautious, leader remained. When he was caught in the meshes of the insurrection the Dictator determined that the clemency cry should have no hearing until James Connolly was shot. The appeal for clemency was shouted down by the clamor for blood; and when poor Connolly was disposed of it was the turn of the Irish leaders. By a whirlwind campaign of misrepresentation the efforts of the leaders to salvage the wreckage of the insurrection were travestied to the country. For a moment the campaign seemed to have succeeded. The dagger which Mr. William O'Brien declared the would-be Dictator had purchased for Mr. Healy to kill the Constitutional Movement with seemed to have found its mark. Time and the truth-spreading march of events, however, have told their tale. The eyes of the country have opened upon the pit into which it was being so unscrupulously led.

REPRESENTATIVES' MOVEMENTS

NORTH ISLAND:

MR. RYAN—Taranaki.

SOUTH ISLAND:

MR. PICKUP—Invercargill and Suburbs.

People We Hear About

Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan, S.J., celebrated his golden jubilee as a member of the Society of Jesus on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

An exchange states that John McCormack, the famous Dublin tenor, earns by his wonderful voice not less than £100,000 per annum, which is said to exceed the income of any artist in the world. The Irish tenor is a lover of rare paintings, and has just acquired a Rembrandt, the portrait of the painter's sister, at a price of £30,000. This Rembrandt is only 20 inches high, and comes from the collection of the Marquis of Carcona in Paris. Mr. McCormack's art collection is valued at close on £300,000. He was formerly a singer in Dublin churches and recently he gave a concert for the benefit of the families of the victims of the Dublin rebellion, which netted £2000.

Very deep regret was felt throughout France at the death of Mgr. Lobbeday, Bishop of Arras, which occurred quite suddenly at Boulogne during the last week in December. This distinguished prelate, who has been called 'The Soldiers' Bishop,' was only recently decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honor, for his splendid courage and sacrifice during the ten months he spent in his beleaguered city of Arras. He offered the decoration to the Pope, saying that it had been received by the French episcopate in his person. It is thought that the privations and mental distress he went through before he was induced to remove the seat of his diocese to Boulogne had weakened his health, thus causing his death. Another heroic prelate, Mgr. Charost, Bishop of Lille, is still at his post and says that he and his people are looking forward with great hope to the coming spring.

A Rome message announces that at the solemn religious ceremonies on December 19 inaugurating the celebration of the seventh centenary of the establishment of the Dominican Order a note of sorrow was interjected by the death of the ex-General of the Order, the Very Rev. Father Cormier, O.P., who passed peacefully away at noon, just as the Solemn High Mass closed at the central Dominican Church in the Eternal City. He sank gradually under the weight of his 84 years. So holy were his dying hours that already the thoughts of the prominent members of his Order who were present are turning towards the taking of steps in the near future to introduce the case of his beatification. Father Cormier was a remarkable man in many respects. Though practically all his life an invalid, he rose to one of the most important positions in the Church, head of the great Dominican Order.

I had the pleasure the other evening of listening to Mr. Asquith give his views on age and efficiency in the House of Commons (says a Home paper). Sir Cyprian Bridge, who is 77 years of age, has been appointed as the naval member of the Mesopotamia Commission and Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux thought he was too old for the work. Mr. Asquith did not agree with the gallant admiral. He recalled his first experience of a Cabinet. His chief was Mr. Gladstone, who was then 83 and still active physically and mentally. One of Mr. Gladstone's predecessors, Lord Beaconsfield, was Prime Minister up to within a short time of his death at the age of 77, and Mr. Asquith was inclined to attribute his death to the cessation of work. A number of men do not think it too late to begin a career in Parliament when they have reached three score years and ten. Mr. Hicks-Beach, who not long ago was elected to the Commons as member for Tewkesbury, is 75. Sir Robert Pullar, formerly Liberal member for Perth, entered Parliament for the first time at the age of 79 in 1907. Mr. Samuel Young, the oldest member of the present House, was 70 when he began his Parliamentary career, and he is now in his 95th year.

FLUENZOL Should be gargled night and morning as a guard against Infantile Paralysis and other germs.

NO RUBBING LAUNDRY HELP contains nothing injurious to hands or finest fabrics.