

ing our schools in proportion to age were backward as compared with those attending the public schools. In doing so he gave the tabulated average ages of the various schools in the district, and thus conclusively proved that the children attending the Catholic schools had whatever advantage there was regarding age, on their side. He expressed his gratitude and that of the parishioners to the Sisters, and urged on all the duty of furnishing proper schools for them. £11,000 would be required in St. Mary's parish at no distant date for educational purposes, and he felt sure that his people would be equal to the demands that would be made upon them.

#### SACRED HEART GIRLS' COLLEGE, CHRISTCHURCH.

The secondary schools' basket-ball competition for 1919 has closed and the B team of the above school has this year again won the shield, not having been beaten once throughout the season. The A team had to compete with strong teams from several of the big schools and came third in the list of successful competitors. They won well-contested matches played with the A teams of St. Margaret's College, Technical College, Normal High School, and West Christchurch District High School. At the close of the season a very exciting match was played on the Convent ground between the two school teams, A and B, in the presence of many interested spectators and again the B team was victorious.

At the recent examination in connection with the Royal Academy of Music one of the senior pupils of the school, Miss Kitty Murphy, was successful in obtaining her L.A.B. diploma, the examiner speaking highly of her musical attainments. Miss Mavis Falconer was successful in gaining first prize in section A of the Navy League secondary schools essay competition, which entitles the college to hold Mr. J. Duggall's challenge silver rose-bowl for the coming year. The subject of the essay was "The rise of Japan and its possible effect on the Pacific nations and the British Empire." This essay, said the judge, Professor Blunt, of Canterbury College, "was decidedly good and discussed the question at considerable length. The facts were correct and well-marshalled, while the reasoning was sound and to the point."

## THE CATHOLIC WORLD

### GENERAL.

The jurisdiction of the Apostolic Delegates to Australia (says the London *Catholic Times* of recent date) has up to now extended only to that country and the missions of New Zealand. The Sacred Congregation of Propaganda has decreed, with the consent of the Holy Father, that henceforth the Apostolic Delegate shall also have jurisdiction over the missions of insular Oceania.

The Cardinal-Archbishop of Milan warmly recommends to the faithful a collective document on social policy issued by the Bishops of Lombardy. It advocates measures for placing the workers on the land and giving those who are engaged in industrial concerns a share in the profits. It is urged that the people should have better opportunities for education, and points out that the Church not only does not fear the elevation of the toilers in the social scale, but desires it, as it always has done.

Bishop Joseph Tacconi, of the Province of Homan, China, where he has been engaged in missionary work for over a quarter of a century, who has lately been in Buffalo, U.S.A., as a guest of Rev. Joseph Gambino, does not believe that the League of Nations will endure, unless the policy of self-determination is made one of the fundamental principles of the League. "I do not believe the League of Nations will endure," Mgr. Tacconi declared in an interview, "because the members of the League, in my opinion, never intended to carry out its policy of granting self-determination to provinces under the control of the nations of the League. Unless self-determination is granted them in the near future there will be another league of nations, composed of Germany, Japan, Austria, and all the Oriental countries. Then there will be a war greater than the so-called world war just ended, and I believe it will be within the next 10 years. Egypt, China, Corea, Thibet, Cochín China, British India, the Province of Malacca, Java, Sumatra, and the Dutch colonies will gladly join a new League of Nations," the Bishop continued. "This is true especially of the European Asiatic countries. I do not believe it is intended the League of Nations should be applied to the East. That will make it easy to form a league in opposition. They all want self-determination because they are growing more civilised each year." Mgr. Tacconi is enthusiastic about the prospects of the Catholic Church in China. There are 4,000,000 Catholics in China and 700,000 Protestants of various denominations, he said. The rest of the 400,000,000 to 450,000,000 population are

pagans. There are 56 Catholic Bishops and 4000 missionaries from Italy and France. The Bishop is a native Italian, and is on his way to Rome, where he intends to remain for several months.

#### A CHINAMAN'S TESTIMONY TO THE FAITH.

*La Croix* publishes the following outspoken testimony to the Faith from a Chinaman of some position—M. Soun. This gentleman, as delegate of the Chinese Republic, delivered the Celestial decoration known as "The Golden Awa" to Mgr. Reynaud, Vicar Apostolic of Eastern Che-Kiang, at Ning-Po. Not many years ago M. Soun was an uncompromising and active enemy to Catholicism. Converted since, as he himself declares, not to the Catholic Faith, it is true, but to a deep appreciation of Catholicism, he took occasion from the Ning-Po ceremony to make the following generous avowal in the presence of the assembled mandarins: "Turning from an erroneous past, I am anxious, gentlemen, to relieve my conscience by telling you, who are not Catholics, that I was mistaken (and who knows if there be not amongst you some who are still so?). Not only can one be a Catholic and at the same time a true Chinaman, but in China, as throughout the world, Catholicism is the foundation of the purest patriotism and an unending source of the self-sacrifice which it demands. The war has come as a further confirmation of my personal experience. Those great men, those generals whose names are on the lips of all, those undoubted saviours of humanity, but first and foremost of their own country, are all men of religion, nearly all of them Catholics of fervent practice. Foch—the famous and admirable, the warrior whose name will pass into legend, Foch is a Catholic—yes! He prays, goes to church, has a brother a priest. I do not recall the names of all the other French generals, but I know, from close attention to the subject, that the greatest among them are like Foch. The clue to what may seem to you an enigma is this: Without religious faith (and I have no hesitation in placing the Catholic in the first rank) you cannot have—or can only with difficulty attain—true, disinterested love to the point of sacrifice, or patience under trials."

### REX DOLORIS.

"*Sigurd with the sign of His Cross, and salted with His salt.*"—St. Augustine.

"Wherefore wilt thou linger, Lady Persephone?"

The sheaves are gathered, the vintage is done,  
Bacchus through the ivy-leaves laughing with his satyrs  
Calls us to the feasting, and the ripe, red sun  
Drops like an apple tumbling to the westward,

The shout of the Maenads is merry on the hill,  
Why do the wheat-ears fall from thy fingers?

Whom dost thou look for, fingering still?

"Whom dost thou look for? Here is one to woo thee,

Brown-checked, beautiful, lissom as the larch,  
Lightsome, slender, blossomy with kisses.

Merrier-footed than the winds in March;

Loose thy hair to dream along his shoulder,

Drowse in thy whiteness warm upon his breast,

He shall feed thee with wheaten cakes and honey

And all fair fruits that are rich and daintiest."

"I weary of the feast, I weary of the harvesting,

I weary of your music, children of the earth—

Your feet dance over the roofs of my palaces,

The halls of Hades ring hollow to your mirth;

The great King of Grief hath reft me, ravished me,

Broken me with kisses, conquered me with pain,

I have drunk His bitter wine, I have eaten of His pome-

granates,

Can find no savor in the honey-comb again."

"Wherefore wilt thou linger, Lady Persephone,

When sheaves are gathered and the vintage is done,

And Bacchus through the ivy-leaves laughing with his

satyrs

Calls us to the feasting, and the ripe, red sun

Drops like an apple, tumbling to the westward,

While the shout of the Maenads echoes from the hill?"—

"Ere the round moon rise ruddy on the corn-shocks

The Lord of Hades shall have me at His will."

—DOROTHY L. SAYERS, in the *New Witness*.

I have been informed by many of those who have had judicial places in Ireland and know partly of my own knowledge, that there is no people of the Christian world that are greater lovers of liberty and justice than the Irish are; which virtue must needs be accompanied by many others.—Lord Chief Justice Coke.