

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.

EASTER HOLIDAYS, 1910.

EXCURSION FARES.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued from ANY STATION to ANY STATION on the South Island Main Line and Branches from TUESDAY, March 22, to MONDAY, March 28 inclusive, available for return up to and including TUESDAY, April 26.

The Return Fares will be;—First Class, 2d per mile; Second Class, 1d per mile, minimum being 4s and 2s respectively.

BY ORDER.

The New Zealand Catholic Prayer Book

By the Australian Catholic Truth Society.

This Book is identical with the Australian Catholic Prayer Book, published at the request of the Third Australian Plenary Council, which is so highly recommended.

Price 6d, post free, from the N.Z. Tablet Co.

WANTED

WANTED, a MAN to do all Farm Work and Milk.—Apply Mrs. Wm. Crosbie, Menzies Ferry, Edendale.

DEATHS

CARROLL.—On March 1, at her residence, Gladstone Villa, Walker street, Ellen, relict of John Carroll; aged 67 years. R.I.P.

McENTYRE.—On March 1, 1910, at Pleasant View Farm, Arrowtown, Mary, beloved wife of Thomas McEntyre, and native of County Clare, Ireland; in her 69th year. May her dear soul rest in peace.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

KORADI.—Unsuitable.

A FRIEND.—You have not sent us your name and address.

W. P. LINEHAN,

CATHOLIC BOOKSELLER & PUBLISHER,

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NAZARETH HOUSE, CHRISTCHURCH

HOME FOR AGED POOR AND ORPHAN AND INCURABLE CHILDREN.

This Institution is a Branch of the well-known Nazareth House, Hammersmith, London, which has 29 Branch Houses in the United Kingdom, Africa, and Australia; affords a permanent home to aged and infirm poor of both sexes, also to Orphan and Incurable Girls (those entirely idiotic or suffering from fits excepted). The Home has no funds, and depends entirely for the support of the poor on the alms collected daily by the Sisters in money, food, and clothes. The aged poor are received without distinction as to creed or country, and left perfectly free to attend their own place of worship. A number of applications had to be refused for want of space, and the Sisters were obliged to build, and thus incur a very heavy debt; but they rely entirely upon Divine providence and the generosity of their many kind benefactors (which has never yet failed them) to enable them to pay off this debt. The House may be visited daily between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. Cheques and p.o. orders may be made payable to the Superior, Mother M. Felix.

INFORMATION WANTED

JAMES USSHER and JOHN USSHER, sons of John Ussher or Usher and Jane Smith, brothers to William Ussher, natives of County Galway, Ireland; left Ireland about fifty years ago. Information wanted by their nephew, the Right Rev. Monsignor James M. Ussher, Calle Pringles 856, Buenos Aires, South America. Any information will also be thankfully received at office of this paper. Will AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC PAPERS kindly copy?

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

*Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitia causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.*

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1910.

THE IMPENDING STRUGGLE IN FRANCE



ANOTHER chapter is being added to the long and painful annals of religious persecution in France. For some years past an atheist Government, with a huge Parliamentary majority, has been carrying on a war of extermination against any and every form of religious faith. Their one aim and purpose is, as expressed by the present Minister for Labor, 'to extinguish the lights of heaven'—in other words, to extirpate every vestige of religion in the country. To this end the Catholics of France have been subjected to spoliation, confiscation, robbery, and repression of every kind; and now, by way of climax, it is proposed to rob them of the last remnant of their liberties—the liberty of education.

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The coming conflict will centre round the so-called 'neutral' schools. By Jules Ferry's law of 1882 the State schools were required to be absolutely and strictly neutral in all matters where religion was concerned. Influenced, however—as they could not fail to be—by the open and increasingly aggressive attacks made on religion by their political masters, the teachers in the State schools have come to show themselves less and less respectful of the neutrality which, according to the letter of the law, they were bound to observe. The practices of religion were misrepresented and ridiculed, doubts were insidiously insinuated, and in some cases even common morality and the duty of patriotism were decried. After appealing in vain to the education authorities for protection against this system for the corruption of the faith of their children, parents had recourse to the law courts, with the result that, in the case of a grossly offending teacher, Morizot by name—whose shocking teachings were referred to at length in these columns—the judges declared that such an appeal was within the competence of aggrieved parents. In addition to the individual action of the teachers, a further breach of the principle of neutrality has been committed by the introduction, under the authority of the Government, of a new set of specially prepared text-books on 'civic morality,' the teachings of which are in flat and open contradiction to the very idea of revealed religion. The books were, of course, condemned by the Bishops; and the condemnation was followed by certain action on the part of