

'God or No-God in the Schools'

We print elsewhere a first instalment of the text of the new matter in Dr. Cleary's latest work on the great question which he has made so completely his own. The work has just left the publisher's hands, and will be obtainable from all Catholic booksellers. In addition to the general text, which we reproduce, full references and many crisp and interesting comments are given in the copious foot-notes which form a feature of the work. To some of these we hope to make incidental reference from time to time. We were particularly pleased to find, in the very first footnote, a dignified protest against the grudging and churlish attitude shown by the *Post* in the matter of according space for the recent controversy. Dr. Cleary thus refers to the pinch-neck policy adopted: "The new matter included in this summary consists of numerous considerations and extracts, which the present writer was unable to make use of in his letters on account of the editor's vehement protests against "polemical prolixity," and his threats to close down the discussion after it had only just begun. In marked contrast with this was the action of the *Otago Daily Times* (Dunedin, N.Z.)—one of the most ably conducted newspapers in Australasia—which generously and cheerfully accorded the present writer space for thirteen lengthy articles (not mere letters) on the same subject, written in express opposition to that paper's educational policy, at a time when the question was not nearly so much "in the air" as it was when the discussion took place in the columns of the *Wellington Evening Post*. The Dunedin discussion was, at the suggestion of the *Otago Daily Times*, reproduced in book form ("Secular vs. Religious Education," pp. 212; Dunedin, 1909)."

'The Dream of Gerontius'

The following particulars—taken from the Catholic *Who's Who*—regarding Sir Edward Elgar, and his musical masterpiece *The Dream of Gerontius*, which is to be performed in New Zealand by the Sheffield choir during the coming weeks, will be of interest to our readers. The composer was born at Broadheath, Worcestershire, the son of W. H. Elgar, organist. Settled near Worcester as a Professor, he became, in that city, organist and choir-master at St. George's Catholic Church. He subsequently composed and taught music at Malvern. His *Caractacus* and *Sea Pictures* were performed at Leeds and Norwich Festivals respectively of 1898 and 1899; and his *Dream of Gerontius* was produced at Birmingham Festival of 1900. This masterpiece, hailed immediately as the finest oratorio written by an English pen, after having been performed in Düsseldorf and America, was heard in London for the first time at Westminster Cathedral in 1903, under the baton of the composer. A second oratorio, *The Apostles*, was produced at Birmingham during the same year, and in 1904 a unique compliment was paid the composer by the Elgar Festival at the Royal Opera—the first occasion on which an English composer has been honored with a festival of his own works during his lifetime. Sir Edward, who was knighted in 1904, is a Mus. Doc. of Cambridge, Oxford, Durham, and Yale; Hon. Freeman of the City of Worcester, and member of many foreign academies and societies. He married (1889) Caroline, daughter of General Sir H. G. Roberts, K.C.B., of Hazeldine House, Worcestershire, and has one daughter.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

Saturday next will be a fast day, the fast having been transferred from the Vigil of the feast of SS. Peter and Paul to the Saturday following it.

Mr. William Skinner and Mr. Edmund Lynch, students of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, received Tonsure and Minor Orders during the week at the hands of his Lordship the Bishop. The ceremony took place in the College chapel.

The St. Patrick's Young Men's Club, South Dunedin, held their weekly meeting in the schoolroom on Monday evening, there being a very large attendance of members. The president (Rev. Father Delany) gave an interesting and instructive lecture on a recent visit to Spain, and was listened to with the closest attention throughout.

Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., who was engaged during the past week in conducting a retreat for the Children of Mary at Cromwell, returned to Dunedin on Saturday. On Saturday evening he opened a retreat for the pupils and ex-pupils of St. Dominic's College, and on Wednesday evening he began the midwinter retreat for the Dominican Nuns. Father Creagh preached in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday evening.

In accordance with the policy instituted this year of selecting subjects for debate that are best calculated to offer the younger members an easy means of procuring matter for the purposes of discussion, the members of St. Joseph's Men's Club on Monday evening argued the ques-

tion, 'Will Home Rule benefit Ireland?' Mr. J. Atwill, leading in the affirmative, was supported by Messrs. H. Moynihan, Lenihan, and Berthelson; and Mr. E. W. Spain in the negative was assisted by Messrs. H. Salmon, H. Drury, and M. Rosbotham. The speeches were without exception exceedingly good, and showed that the members had made a close study of the whole question.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration was commenced in the Sacred Heart Church, North-east Valley, on Friday morning, when High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Corcoran, Rev. Father Lynch (Wrey's Bush) being deacon, and Rev. Father P. J. O'Neill subdeacon. Rev. Father Corcoran celebrated a Missa Cantata on Saturday morning. The devotion was brought to a close on Sunday evening with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The attendance at the Masses and devotions was very good. Large numbers approached the Holy Table during the three days, and on Sunday morning the members of the Hibernian Society in regalia received Holy Communion in a body.

The St. Joseph's Harriers' One-mile and a-half novice race was contested at Forbury Park on Saturday, and, notwithstanding the very unfavorable weather, a field of 12 faced the starter (Mr. C. Collins). L. Kennedy, the limit man, made the pace very fast from the start, and at the half-mile post there was very little difference in the positions. L. Kennedy cried enough and dropped out passing the five-furlong post, L. O'Sullivan and M. Hughes gradually began to move up on the limit man, and passing the stand for the first time the order was—W. Bryan, M. Hughes, and L. O'Sullivan. Here J. Mace and D. O'Connell dropped out. At the mile post M. Hughes ran into first place, with W. Bryan at his heels, L. O'Sullivan about 20 yards behind, and Jas. Hughes fast making up ground. Coming round into the straight for home, M. Hughes started to put on the pace, and a great finish was witnessed between him and W. Bryan for first place, M. Hughes just winning after a desperate struggle, L. O'Sullivan finishing third after a struggle with Jas. Hughes, who ran an excellent race off the 5sec mark. W. Butcher, the scratch man, finished fifth. Result—M. Hughes (25sec), 1; W. Bryan (30sec), 2; L. O'Sullivan (15sec), 3. Time, 8min 6 1-5sec. The track was in a very sloppy condition.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

June 26.

Rev. Father Furlong, writing from New York, says that his stay in the United States has been most enjoyable. He expected to sail for Ireland on May 20.

Rev. Father O'Farrell has resumed his duties in the Sacred Heart parish. I am pleased to state that he is completely recovered from his recent indisposition.

His Lordship the Bishop on last Friday blessed the new Convent of the Sacred Heart, and in the afternoon confirmed twenty-five children in the convent chapel.

Father Hunt finished a short mission to the people at Lake Takapuna and the orphans on Thursday evening, the 22nd. No praise could equal his signal and fruitful mission, which will be long remembered with gratitude in the whole parish. He goes from Devonport on Saturday to Otahuhu, where he is to open a mission on Sunday, 25th June. Altogether 82 candidates have been confirmed in Devonport and Northcote, which is a record number for the northern shores of Waitemata Harbor.

A sacred concert was given by the members of the Cathedral choir in the schoolroom of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Newmarket, when there was an excellent attendance, the building being filled, and all were rewarded by a splendid programme contributed by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. P. P. Hiseocks, Mr. Harry Hiseocks presiding at the piano. At the conclusion of the concert Rev. Father Doyle thanked the performers for their splendid services, and the audience for their hearty support.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration concluded on last Tuesday evening at the Cathedral. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and Rev. Father Wright preached a fine sermon on the Blessed Sacrament. Afterwards there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, in which over 180 members of the Holy Family Confraternity took part. Visiting clergy and several laymen from the south were most enthusiastic in their praise of the grand manifestation of faith shown by such a large body of men.

A very old member of the Cathedral parish, in the person of Mrs. O'Hare, died on last Thursday morning, at the ripe age of 84 years. For nearly half a century she has been a regular attendant at the Cathedral. She was noted for her piety and devotedness to her religion, and will be missed by many outside her family circle. She leaves a son, Mr. Edward O'Hare, and a daughter, Mrs. J. J. O'Brien, to mourn their loss. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Wright on last Saturday at 9 o'clock in the Cathedral. His Lordship the Bishop and Rev. Fathers Holbrook and Ormond assisted. The remains were taken from the Cathedral to the Panmure Cemetery, where they were interred.—R.I.P.

On Sunday, June 11, his Lordship the Bishop administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at Devonport to 60