

We congratulate your Grace on the splendid clergy you have gathered to your side to help in building up in these lands the City of God. In a special manner we wish to thank your Grace for what you have done for Catholic Education; and to congratulate you again on the devoted religious teachers who have made possible the realisation of your hopes. Under your paternal care colleges and schools have sprung into being and flourished.

The instincts of the Good Shepherd have prompted you to foster and encourage the charity of Christ towards all, and in your Grace, the poor, the afflicted, and the orphan have found a protector and friend.

We recall with pleasure your Grace's fifty years of pastoral care as preacher of the Word of God; and rejoice that advancing years still find you teaching your people as in the first days of your episcopate.

For your gift to us, the Catholics of New Zealand, of your noble life and character, we wish to put on record our sincerest thanks. We shall always think of you, and shall teach our children to think of you as our gentle, learned, and noble-minded Archbishop.

The affection and respect of the Catholic people of half a century we gather up and offer to you to-night in the simple words, "May God bless you, and keep you always."

Signed on behalf of the Catholic Laity of New Zealand, by Messrs. McKenna, Cohun, Sheehan, Marlow, Flynn, Hoskins.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY'S ADDRESS.

May it please Your Grace,—

Upon the happy celebration of the Golden Jubilee of your consecration to the episcopacy, we tender to you with deep sincerity of heart, the congratulations of the members of the New Zealand District of the Hibernian-Australasian Catholic Benefit Society.

From your exalted position, you have witnessed the swift growth of a nation, from vigorous youth to splendid maturity. As a churchman, you have moulded the thought of clergy and laity in the image of your own lofty ideals; as a citizen, you have propagated your enlightened conceptions of the principles underlying Christian civilisation. As the master builder, and a chief among the second line of pioneers of Catholicism in New Zealand, you will always be remembered in the history of our country.

To the sons of the Gael, in whose name our society tenders its felicitations this evening, you have especially endeared yourself by your advocacy of the cause of Ireland in her struggle for nationhood.

In conclusion, we offer gratitude to God that He has spared you to enjoy this great day of your Episcopal Golden Jubilee, and pray that for many years you may continue to grace the Metropolitan See of the Catholic Church in this Dominion.

We beg to remain, your Grace,

Yours most obediently,

Claud Colhoun, District President.
Daniel Flynn, District Vice-President.
James Smith, District Past-President.
M. J. Sheahan, District Treasurer.
W. Kane, District Secretary.

LETTER FROM DEAN BURKE.

Invercargill,

February 18, 1924.

Your Grace,

I wish to join in the vast number of congratulations which will be showered upon you these days by your friends, admirers, and those who have received kindness at your hands; of whom I am one. Owing to pressure of parish work I cannot be present at the ceremonies. I am up to my eyes in building schools. This prevents me from going to Wellington for the great festival. Needless to say I wish to join in the great celebration and in the congratulations and good wishes of the multitudes of your well-wishers who will be there,

Whilst I remain,

Your Grace's Most Devoted Servant,

WILLIAM BURKE.
(Dean)

REPLY BY ARCHBISHOP REDWOOD.

In rising to address this magnificent gathering of all classes, ranks, and personages on this unique occasion of my long life—the Golden Jubilee of my Episcopate—the uppermost sentiment in my heart is one of frequent and boundless gratitude, first of all to Almighty God, the merciful bestower of all good gifts, temporal and spiritual, for indeed it is meet and just, right and salutary, that at all times and in all places we should give due thanks to God our Supreme Benefactor; but particularly do I feel the urgency of that sweet duty on this ever remarkable day of my Golden Jubilee. Grateful thanks, therefore, to God who, while so many prelates contemporary with me in the year of my consecration have been removed by death, has mercifully spared me to stand before the world as the senior Bishop of the Catholic Church. It is a favor and a privilege and a mercy that no words can adequately express, when viewing the course of these fifty years, I calmly survey all God's mercies to me; transported with the thought I am lost in wonder, love, and praise. Next thanks, most grateful thanks to God's chief representative on earth, his Holiness Pope Pius XI., who, to expressly honor and commemorate this Jubilee, has most graciously deigned by cablegram and brief to confer upon the fortunate Jubilarian the exalted dignity of Assistant at the Pontifical Throne. Thanks also to all this vast assemblage, particularly to the splendid and unprecedented array of distinguished and illustrious prelates from Australia and the South Sea Islands, headed by the revered representative of his Holiness the Pope, his Excellency Archbishop Cattaneo, Apostolic Delegate. Such a sight was never seen before in this Dominion, and when will such another be seen again? Echo, say when! a long long when!

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS THANKED.

Thanks again to the right reverend and reverend ecclesiastics of all ranks here present to-night to do honor to my unworthiness, and with this great and representative audience to help me to thank God more effectively by joining their thanksgiving with mine. Yes! Your Excellency Apostolic Delegate, yes! Your Graces of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart, yes! Your Lordships of all the other dioceses of Australia, you have greatly honored this assembly and this city of Wellington and this Dominion by your august presence, and in their joint names I tender to you my heartfelt thanks and the liveliest expressions of my unbounded gratitude. You have made this Jubilee celebration an historic event to be remembered unto all time; but with these sentiments of thankfulness rise a multitude of other thoughts and feelings, among them first of all I naturally experience an old man's pleasure in reviewing and praising the past. I have seen the cradle of this Dominion, I have seen its promising childhood, its sturdy youth, and its present vigorous manhood. I have seen it rise from a Colony to a Dominion and to the noble status of a self-governing nation. I have also seen the Catholic Church, once a struggling mission among savages, now an organised and flourishing province with its Hierarchy, its churches, its colleges, its schools, its institutions of beneficence and charity, and its religious Orders in rapidly increasing numbers, and the day, I hope, is not far off when it will possess a Cathedral worthy of this metropolis of this Dominion and of the Universal Church. All these facts and projects are fit matter for gladness and jubilation. This, the momentous day of the Lord, let us rejoice and exult therein.

ANOTHER PICTURE.

But there is another picture which I cannot overlook, and it has its dark and sombre features. It will not escape the all-seeing eye of our infinitely just Judge, and this thought sobers any disordinate desire of elation or feeling of triumph. When that just Judge and Sovereign Lord of the world sent abroad His sacred envoys, the Apostles, those lights of the world, those pillars of the Church and founders of Christian civilisation upon the ruins of heathendom, He solemnly said to them "when you

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Pure and Wholesome. ©

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