

## SYDNEY'S FAREWELL TO ARCHBISHOP MANNIX

We are indebted to our Sydney exchanges for the following report of the farewell recently tendered to his Grace Archbishop Mannix on his passing through that city en route to Europe:—

Sydney, the mother city of Australia, has witnessed many extraordinary public demonstrations in past years, but the demonstration at the Central Railway Station on Tuesday morning, May 18, in honor of the arrival of the illustrious Archbishop of Melbourne (Most Rev. Dr. Mannix) was unique and unsurpassed. It was magnificent. It was a spectacle that will never fade from the memories of those who had the good fortune to witness it. Men with the magic personality of Archbishop Mannix, who are prepared at all times and at all hazards to fight for the rights of oppressed peoples, are rare. Archbishop Mannix has a deep and burning love for the democracy of Australia, and the manner in which he has, on innumerable occasions, fought and defeated the enemies of Australia's liberty and independence has endeared him to all true Australians, no matter what their creed. What wonder, then, that Sydney rose to the occasion in befitting style, and accorded the distinguished prelate a welcome the like of which has never before been extended to any distinguished visitor to the harbor city.

His Grace travelled to Sydney by the Melbourne express, the first division of which was due to arrive at a quarter to 11. At that hour, an immense crowd had gathered on the railway station, there being at least 30,000 present. On the platform which the train was to arrive at the crush was so great that there appeared a possibility of some of the people being pushed on to the railway line. The opposite platform, too, was densely crowded. The main assembly platform was one mass of densely packed humanity, which overflowed on to the street outside.

A large body of police was in attendance to control the crowds, and special barricades had been erected, in order to ensure a clear passage for his Grace from the train to a special motor car in readiness to convey him to St. Mary's Cathedral on his arrival.

Whilst the people waited for the arrival of the express the Returned Soldiers' Band whiled away the time with inspiring music. At 10.45 the first division of the express steamed slowly into the station, and a tense feeling of expectancy was in the air. But, alas, his Grace was not aboard the train. After a period of anxious uncertainty, it became known that his Grace was travelling by the second division of the express, and the spirits of the waiting multitude revived.

Punctually at 11.35 the second division steamed into the station, and a deafening cheer arose as his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne was observed to step from the train accompanied by his Lordship the Bishop of Ballarat (Right Rev. Dr. Foley), Very Rev. Dean Hegarty, P.P., V.F., and Very Rev. Dean Carey, P.P.

Among those on the platform to welcome his Grace were his Lordship the Bishop of Maitland (Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer), Right Rev. Mgr. Moynagh (Diocesan Administrator), Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran, Very Rev. Father P. Cullen, C.M., Very Rev. Father M. J. O'Reilly, C.M. (Rector St. John's College, within the University of Sydney), Rev. Father P. J. Murphy (Adm. St. Mary's Cathedral), and a number of other members of the clergy and prominent laymen.

The Returned Soldiers' Band struck up a selection as Dr. Mannix vainly attempted to make his way through the dense mass of cheering humanity which thronged the platform. It certainly seemed as though his Grace would never succeed in getting off the station in time to keep his appointment at the Town Hall. But a group of broad-shouldered young men, assisted by a large body of policemen, succeeded by main force in clearing a passage way, and by slow stages, his Grace succeeded in reaching the car which was to convey him to St. Mary's Presbytery.

The crowd outside the railway station was wildly enthusiastic, and insistently clamored for a speech.

### Archbishop Mannix Addresses the Crowd.

As his Grace Dr. Mannix, calm and smiling, stood up to address the great, surging multitude, a strange silence suddenly descended, in the midst of which the dropping of a pin might have been heard. "My dear friends," said his Grace, "a great many people wanted to have me sent away from Australia. I wish we had some of them here to help me to get away. These are the people whom you never can find when they are wanted. They were missing on St. Patrick's Day in Melbourne, and they are missing now to-day when I want them in Sydney. However, I will try and make my way without their

assistance. And I will come back to Australia in spite of them."

At this stage there was an indescribable outburst of cheering and applause. The immense crowd seemed to be entirely carried away by their enthusiasm, and it was fully five minutes before his Grace could continue.

"I do not intend to make a long speech," he proceeded. "But I wish to thank you from the depths of my heart for this magnificent demonstration you have made in my honor. I have to apologise for disappointing many of you on Sunday morning and since then, but the blame has to be put on the shoulders of the Melbourne people, because I did my best to come to you. For the fact that I failed to get away in time, I hope you have forgiven me, and I will also forgive you for any inconvenience you have given to my friends because you have not given any to me."—(Cheers.)

His Grace then drove away in his car, and as it sped down the incline towards George street, it was followed by a rushing, tumultuously-cheering multitude.

### The Banquet at the Town Hall.

At 1 o'clock his Grace was entertained at a banquet at the Town Hall.

It was some minutes before his Grace the Archbishop was able to reply to the toast of "Our Guest," so prolonged was the cheering. His Grace apologised for the delay which had occurred in arriving in Sydney.

However, he was not altogether responsible. The Melbourne people had taken the matter into their own hands. On arrival here he got a reception of which any man might have felt proud. He thanked those who had participated in it. It was a great honor to him. He was specially indebted to the Lord Mayor and others for the great honor done him at that function. He had permitted them to give him something which he had refused Melbourne. However, Sydney had given him this function without consulting him. Consequently Melbourne would be angry. He was glad that they had a State Government which would be represented at a function of the kind.—(Sustained applause.) He was going to Rome to give an account of his stewardship here. He was going away after seven years, and he could tell the Holy Father that there were no better and no more staunch Catholics in Christendom than in Australia.

"I am glad," said Dr. Mannix, "to be able to bear the messages to my native land. I have come to the conclusion that this is a time when Ireland's friends should speak out. We should be on Ireland's side or else turn our backs on them. I expect on my way through America to meet the President of the Irish Republic. I have never met him, but I understand that we went to school together—and we have been educated on similar lines."

Dr. Mannix said that he would be able to tell the President that we here in Australia knew how to keep in our place, and did not think it was our duty to dictate to Ireland. But Ireland had declared her policy, "and that is enough for me and all rational Australians."

Dr. Mannix said that he would therefore have much pleasure in reporting the result of the Irish Convention in Melbourne, when they committed themselves to a policy on which they had no intention of turning their backs. When we went to Ireland there would be no doubt about where his sympathies lay.

"I will kneel at the graves of these murdered men," he declared, "whose names will go down in Irish history. They died fighting for the regeneration of Ireland. These heroes did not fear to give their lives for their native land. I will take Australia's sympathy for these men with me."

Dr. Mannix said that Lloyd George and his henchmen expected Ireland to forego her claim for freedom, just because she was near to the coast of England. The fact was—whether Ireland was far away or near, and he wished she was further away—it was a question of right, not might or proximity. And he hoped that, either with the will of the English people or without it, Ireland would assert her right to keep it. In the future he hoped that Ireland would live in friendship with England. It would be better to have a friendly Ireland with peace and freedom than to have a rebellious Ireland at the back door. There was nothing to prevent Ireland being friendly and independent, as France and Belgium had been in the late war.

"Ireland is not a part of England, thank God," declared Dr. Mannix. "When I go to Ireland I will tell them there is no sitting on the fence here in Australia. A V.C. in Victoria had said that he was not an orator, but added: 'If ever there is a scrap between Ireland and England we will all be fighting for Ireland.' I am the last man to want a 'scrap' between England and Ireland. Ireland would go down even with my V.C. men on my side. Lloyd George had got a message from 11 V.C. men and

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