
DEPARTURE OF REV. FATHER ZUNDOLOVICH.

Farewell and Presentation.

Rev. Father Shore Welcomed Back to Hay.

A well attended social gathering was held in the Convent High School on Tuesday night to bid goodbye to the Rev. Father Paul Zundolovich, and to welcome back to the diocese the Rev. Father Phillip Shore. The arrangements were well carried out by the committee in charge of the function. The room was tastefully decorated, and as a tribute to the departing guest the Russian flag was given a prominent place alongside the Union Jack and the Australian flag. The Mayor (Mr. McMahan) presided and Miss M. Baxter acted as hostess.

In opening the proceedings the Mayor apologised for being late, and said that he had to preside at another meeting which detained him. That gathering was not exactly a double-barrelled event—it was a sort of a machine gun affair. It was a farewell to Father Paul Zundolovich and a welcome to Father Philip Shore and Father James Shore. He had known Father Paul for some time, and they had been on a very friendly footing. He was sorry that Father Paul was going away; a regret that was somewhat tempered by the fact that Father Shore had returned. The Rev. Father Paul was spoken of

The Rev. Father Paul was spoken of with the greatest respect by the man in the street, while his congregation referred to him with terms of affection. Addressing Father Paul, the Mayor said it must be pleasing to him to know that he took the deepest feelings of affection and esteem with him. He (the Mayor) was pleased to be present to welcome Father Shore back again. He felt that his ministrations in the parish would be blessed and he was sure that all he was called upon to do he would do in the same spirit as he had done before. He was also pleased to see that he had brought such a fine brother back with him. He was glad of the opportunity to give Father James Shore a hearty welcome to Hay. It looked as if Hay was going to have another good citizen, and that congregation would especially benefit. He welcomed them both, and wished farewell to Father Paul. He did not know where he was going, but wherever he went the people would get a very fine gentleman. He was very pleased to be there that evening to voice his sentiments. The Mayor then apologised for the absence of Canon Kitchen, who was away; the Rev. W. Robertson, who had just returned from the country; and the Rev. B. L. Webb. He had also received apologies from Dr. O'Brien Messrs. J. Johnston, G. T. Esplin, Henry B. Maclure, Hawkins, Barnett, Butterworth, Baxter, W. E. Meakes, and J. J. Harris. The letters which he had received all spoke in the highest terms of Father Paul as a

the highest terms of Father Paul as a citizen. (Applause.) He called upon Mr. Drury to welcome Father Shore on behalf of the congregation.

Mr. E. S. Drury said that he had been asked by the congregation to extend a hearty welcome to the parish on his homecoming of their pastor. He thanked the Mayor for the civic welcome to Father Shore and his brother. They welcomed Father Shore with warm hearts because he had been restored to them. They were particularly proud of him, because he was the first priest ordained for the Wilcannia Diocese. After 23 years of labor in that diocese nature had intervened, and he had had to rest in order to recuperate. They were pleased to have him back with them, and pleased that he could offer his brother a home second to none in Australia. As his health was such that it would need much care still, he had much pleasure in asking Mr. O. B. Meakes' little daughter to hand Father Shore a cheque. (Applause.) He could only express the hope that he would long remain with them, and be happy. (Applause.)

Mr. Guest said he had been asked to read an address to Father Paul from his parishioners and his personal friends in Hay. The little plot to give him the send-off was hatched in the Catholic Federation, and he would give an outline of that society. Since he had come to Hay the members of the society had nearly doubled. They had contributed an Irish Night in aid of the Australia Day Fund, and had raised nearly 100ens. and had secured an

nearly 100gns., and had secured an Australian flag by it. Every eligible man in the society, without dependents, was somewhere in France or on his way there. Their committee had lost three members in this respect. During his stay in Hay death had made many of the members mourn for relatives, and lately they had lost Mr. Dan Cummins, their vice-president. He was an enthusiast, and a man they would greatly miss. To Father Paul they owed a deep debt of gratitude in their crosses; he had proved a friend indeed. He had known Father Paul at White Cliffs, and many families there looked forward to Father Paul's visits, so that they might keep life in their bodies, for there was often dire poverty there when the miners' luck was out. In Father Paul he lost a personal friend. If any of them went to White Cliffs, and asked about Father Paul the unanimous reply would be that they would like to have their warm hearted pastor back again. They, that night, regretted losing Father Paul, but they rejoiced that Father Shore had been able to return to Hay, and they hoped that he would be long spared to minister to them. They had hoped to be able to give Father Paul a purse of sovereigns, but the collection was too big for the banks to turn into gold. The manager told them that unless Father Paul was leaving Australia he did not think they could raise them anywhere. Therefore he had much pleasure in handing Father Paul a bundle of "Fisher's flimsies." (Applause.)

The address, which was in book form and was very tastefully turned out by the sisters of the convent, was as follows: "Hay, 10th October, 1916.—Rev. P. L. Zundolovich, Hay.—Dear Father Paul,—It is less than two years since you came to Hay to administer to our spiritual needs. During this term we have been edified by the dignity, zeal, and fervor with which you have performed the duties of your exalted office. Your example and words of encouragement have inspired our confidence, and assisted us in the practice of our religion, and when our individual crosses have appeared heavy, your consoling sympathy has cheered and comforted us.

"We are grieved that you should have been called from our midst, and ask you to accept the accompanying gift as a token of our love and admiration, our respect and esteem.

"We trust and pray that you will be granted a continuance of health and strength, and will be spared for many years to labor in the vineyard of Him to Whom you have devoted your life.

"On behalf of your parishioners and friends, we are, dear Father Paul, etc." Here followed a representative number of signatures not only of Church people but of citizens.

The Rev Father Shore responded to the welcome extended to him in one of his characteristic humorous speeches. He was loudly applauded on rising, and

He was loudly applauded on rising, and said that he had not made a speech for a long time, and they must excuse his shortcomings on that occasion. They would see that he had brought his brother with him. He did not know what a good fellow he was till he came back. (Laughter.) When he was there before he was regarded as the biggest cadger from the Riverina to the Bogan. Since leaving them he had travelled through Russia, Austria, and Germany, and many things had happened since that made him sad. He did not know much about the languages, but he spoke French, which got him through. When he left them three years ago he was in bad health. He was not well now, but he was hopeful that the sunshine of Australia would restore him.

If he was a young man he would be fighting, but his days for fighting were past. He had no doubt Father Paul did not like leaving Hay, and the parishioners did not like losing him. He had done grand work. Father O'Connell had worked hard in reducing a big debt and in paying heavy interest. They had since been able to have their church repaired, and now Father Paul had had the Presbytery renovated, and they were no further in debt now than when he started. (Applause.) There was, to use mining language, a seam of generosity which ran from the back of Queensland to Tocumwal, and the main lode was located in Hay. Father Paul came out to Australia shortly after he did, and he taught Father Paul to speak English. He and Father Paul had been particular

Father Paul had been particular friends—he knew Father Paul and Father Paul knew him. Father Paul liked a purse of sovereigns and so did he. He noticed that the Federation had been hatching and had produced a purse of sovereigns. He hoped they would keep on doing that. He thanked them for their hearty welcome. He had brought his brother with him to do all the hard work. His brother was the saint—he was the sinner. (Laughter.)

The Mayor invited the Rev. James Shore to “hit back at his brother.”

The Rev. Jas. Shore in a brief speech said that he deeply appreciated the kind words of welcome on his behalf. He reminded the Mayor that it would not be the duty of a saint to retaliate on his brother. He was a stranger, and they had taken him in. One thing he did know, and that was that they were losing a good friend and pastor. In an acquaintance of four weeks he had formed a close friendship for Father Paul. He had been working amongst the Indians, Chinese, and Japanese, when the doctors found that it was his turn to take his ease. He went home,

and when his brother was anxious to come back to Australia he was well enough to come with him. The mayor had expressed the hope that he would be a good citizen. He promised to do his best.

Messrs. A. J. Brown and John Hiney, as members of the Church, each paid a tribute to the excellent qualities of Father Paul in the discharge of his ministerial duties. They regretted that

ministerial duties. They regretted that he was leaving them, and trusted that their good Bishop would find a place for him in the Diocese. Father Paul had always made it his business to go to the homes of the people who could not go to church for which he was to be sincerely thanked. They wished him success wherever he went.

Mr. Geo. Butterworth and Mr. R. McLean as citizens, joined in the welcome to Father Shore, and paid high tributes to the worth of Father Paul as a citizen and a man—a man who was liberal and broad minded in his views. Mr. Butterworth referred to Father Paul's interest in the advancement of the town and his good work on behalf of the Hay Athenaeum. He believed that the remarkable popularity of Father Paul was in a measure due to his being a representative of a people who had done so much for the Allies in this great war—Russia. Mr. McLean had known Father Paul since he came to Hay, and numbered him amongs his personal friends, and one whom he was sorry to lose. Father Paul was a man who recognised a man as a man, and cared not for position. He hoped that his health would long allow him to continue his ministrations.

Miss Flood on behalf of the Children of Mary presented Father Paul with a travelling rug and trusted that he would remember in his prayers the members of the Children of Mary of Hay.

Mr. Drury, on behalf of the choir,

MR. DRURY, ON BEHALF OF THE CHOIR, presented Father Paul with a gold mounted fountain pen, as an expression of their gratefulness for his intense interest in the work of the choir.

The Rev. Father Paul, who was received with very hearty applause on rising to respond, said that he found himself in a great difficulty in speaking to them that evening. He had been taken by surprise—by surprise that he was bidding them farewell. He never expected it. Under the circumstances they could not expect him to make a great speech. He was very grateful to them for their kindness to him since he came to Hay. It had always been pointed out to him that the promised land was Hay. He had come to the promised land, and now he was told to go out of it. When a man found himself in these circumstances he could not but be surprised. He had been here eighteen months and he had learned to appreciate the people of Hay. He had come into contact with the members of his congregation, and he had learned to appreciate them, and they had treated him very well indeed. He felt that he was handicapped by his name; if it had only been, say, Patrick O'Rourke, he would have got on better. Nevertheless he got on very well, and received kindnesses from them in every way. When he came to Hay he found the Presbytery in bad order. He had it repaired, and as far as he knew it was now the best in the Wilcannia Diocese. They had encouraged him to do that work. The priest's home was the only thing he had in life. He had

to do that work. The priest's home was the only thing he had in life. He hoped that Father Shore would be spared to live many years in residence in the home which had been prepared for him (Applause.) As far as he was concerned he did not know where he was going, but wherever he went he would not go to a bad place. He had much pleasure in welcoming Father Shore and his brother, and he hoped the latter would enjoy his stay in Hay. He thanked them for the presentations they had made him. In regard to the choir, he considered it was one of the best on the Murrumbidgee. They took great interest in their work, and he had especially to thank Sister Joseph. He appreciated sacred music. He was thankful to those who had come to do him honor, and bid him farewell, who were not members of his flock. They had referred to his connection with the Athenaeum; all he could say was that institution had an exemplary secretary in Mr Butterworth. He thanked them one and all and said that one of the things he was looking forward to was that Father Shore might yet become

the Bishop of the Diocese and appoint him back to Hay. (Laughter and applause.)

The Rev Father Shore moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor and paid a tribute to that gentleman's worth as a citizen.

The resolution was carried by acclamation, and the Mayor having acknowledged the compliment, refresh-

nowledged the compliment, refreshments were served by the committee of ladies, and the gathering broke up.

Songs were rendered during the evening by Mrs. O'Connor (encored), Miss Flood, Miss Ogilvie, and Mr. L. McMahon, duet by Mr and Mrs. Drury, chorus by Convent High School girls, recitations by Misses Morgan, Layh, and Dorothy; Miss Macleay acted as accompanist.