

MOAMA'S NEW PASTOR.

FATHER ZUNDOLOVITCH RELATES HIS EXPERIENCES.

The Rev. Father Paul E. Zundolovitch, who has been appointed cure of souls in the Roman Catholic parish of Moama, is a gentleman of some distinction in the ecclesiastical world to which he belongs. A native of the Baltic province of Russia, he is to some extent an exile of the "fair land of Poland." It is unwise at the present juncture to speak of the conditions of life in Poland under Russian rule. However, the Reverend Father, with whom a representative of the "Riverine Herald" had a short conversation yesterday, has been for several years in Australia. At Hay Father Paul, as he was known by his friends, and they were of all sects, was admired for his broad views and genial disposition towards all with whom he came in contact.

Shortly after the war broke out Father Paul volunteered his services to the Commonwealth, and was accepted as a chaplain, and in October of 1916 left Sydney on board the transport *Orontes* bound for England. "There were," Father Paul says, "600 artillerymen on board. They were picked men from all positions in life. Among them was one man who owned three stations in Queensland and was worth £100,000. There were other wealthy men on board, and along with them were men from the humblest position in life, the bushwacker and laborer. All were on the same level."

The war has had a levelling influence has it not? the "Herald" representative asked.

"Yes," said Father Paul. "Position is only a fluke, and we are what we are."

The transport on which Father Paul sailed got safely to England, but he says that an accompanying ship which had on

that an accompanying ship which had on board 600 natives from Africa, who were going to do trenching work in France, or other non-combatant service, was torpedoed in the English Channel and everyone on board lost. Father Paul had not much to say about the conditions of life in England. He did not observe any great difference in the demeanor of the people compared with his experiences when he visited Britain some eight years ago. The notable thing was the great work which girls and women were doing, taking the places of the men in all kinds of industries so that they would be released for active service at the front.

Asked what his views were with regard to the revolution in Russia, Father Paul declared that it was the outcome of the oppression of the poor by the aristocracy. It was an old standing trouble. The only thing which surprised him was that the revolution was a bloodless one. It was the more marvellous because in the revolution which they had brought about the Russian people had upset an enormous power without resort to violence. It was Nihilism without the bombs. What would be the outcome he did not know. The Royalists and loyalists were a power which might yet rise and overcome the aspirations of the democracy. French history had shown this to be possible.

Finally Father Paul expressed his pleasure in coming to Moama to minister to the people, whom he had found genial and kindly. The climate was good and the country prosperous, and he hoped to spend many pleasant days in the district.