

## HIGH PARK CONVENT

### 'APPEAL FOR AID

Appealing for subscriptions on behalf of the Convent of Our Lady of Charity of Refuge, St. Mary's Asylum, High Park, Drumcondra, the Rev. M. Bodkin, S.J., preaching in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Gardiner street, yesterday, said that it was one of the oldest charities in Dublin, having been supported by the generosity of the people for close on seventy years.

There were, he said, 220 or more women and girls there who spent their lives in penance and worked daily in the laundry—some of them had gone into the convent freely to avoid the dangers that threatened to overwhelm them either through the difficulty of their circumstances or from their own knowledge of the weakness of their characters. All of them were free to leave the convent at any time, but persevered because they realised that true happiness lay for them in the practice of penance.

There were no grants of any kind, said Father Bodkin, in support of the convent. It was supported entirely by the girls' own work and by the alms of the people of Dublin. Naturally their work could not attempt to compete economically with laundries run on a different basis, and so the income for its upkeep must be supplemented by gifts given to the Sisters. They appealed for this praiseworthy institution because they believed the work they were doing was a great help to society.

They, therefore, asked those who would help in this work for the sake of these poor souls, and, for their own sake, to send alms however small to the Reverend Mother, High Park Convent; to him (the preacher), or any of the clergy of the diocese.