



PUBLIC WRITING ROOM
GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU
5-8 QUEEN'S WALK (OPPOSITE TOWN HALL)
MELBOURNE, C.

12/12/26

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My most dear Mr Superior

I am enclosing ^{the} visitation Report for Zardum. I need not add anything further in connection with the Zardum - Bindoon Scheme to that contained in the report.

You will have received the very disappointing information concerning Mr S. Draynor's fall before this reaches you.

It is a big blow to our States in the eyes of the Bishops - Drs Mannix & Bendinille. Both spoke to the Provincial concerning the matter in Adelaide & nothing was done until the Provincial reached Perth about 3 wks afterwards. I knew nothing about it until the evening before the Provincial arrived in Perth. I was at the College in Perth waiting for the Provincial the next day.

Dr Bendinille asked to see me at 7 pm. He was very excited ^{and} worked up. He told me what Dr Mannix told him concerning Mr S. Draynor's immoral dealings with the boys in Clifton Hills, and he added, "With no time would do time to carry on his immoral practices except during the boys' retreat." He said: "If Mr Draynor is not out of the house before Monday morning (this was Friday at 7 pm.) I shall go up myself on Monday and close the school."

I saw the Archbishop before I left Perth & he told me that Mr Draynor's fall was the severest blow he had received since he became Archbishop.

Falls of this kind are becoming frequent in Australia; this is most unfortunate. We propose the

the highest form of moral & religious conduct yet some of our members condescend to the most revolting forms of immorality while we are human we shall have falls of this kind but I think that more could be done to reduce the such dreadful happenings. Two successive Superiors in Clifton Hill - Dean and Mr S. Dreyer have been accused of bad & low conduct & the accusations were well founded.

The following is my experience since the 27th Nov '36

— less than 3 wks ago:—

1. Mr S. Dreyer's Case
2. The Superior of the College in Perth told me that Mr A. Nelson who has his B.A. degree & is in charge of the Senior Classes in the College, would have to be changed from a boarding school owing to his familiarity with the boys; he said I make no direct charge but I can assure you that there is a grave danger if he is to continue here or in any boarding school.
3. In Dec. 5th The Superior in Clontarf who is an ex-policeman, told me that a boy in the orphanage made a charge against a Brother (unnamed)

It may not appear serious, still when one remembers that there is a Bro in this Community who indulges in excessive drinking (auto-sufficiency) See the last Clontarf report, I feel that there is much room for concern. I have tried hard to get this Brother changed from Clontarf during the last 6 mts, but failed. I have pointed out the danger to the Provincial & I shall do so again, when we meet.

May I respectfully suggest that a circular be issued concerning this matter. I know it is a delicate matter to deal with, still I always emphasize the part of the rule that deals with such things when speaking to the Brothers after visitation.

I do not wish to be critical of the Provincial as I know only too well his many difficulties still, I think that he should be more prompt in dealing with offences of this kind. My feelings concerning this matter



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may be summed up in an expression used by Dr Prendiville when speaking of Mr J. Dagnor's retention as superior after having heard the charge made by Dr Mannin: "I cannot understand how Mr Hawrehan can procrastinate in such a serious matter as this".

The Provincial, I think, considers that my views on matters of ontocreatory drink & immorality are on the strict and perhaps narrow side; he may be justified in his estimate, hence I respectfully suggest that the quotation from the Archbishop (procrastinating) especially, be suppressed, if you intend to write to the Provincial concerning the matter.

No good will come from it but I anticipate good effects from a strong but prudent circular warning the Brothers against this dreadful evil in our congregation.

With respectful good wishes to the Provincial, the Provincial Assistants and self

Yours affly Dr

P.S. I do not wish to prejudice you against Mr S. Dagnor. I held him in the highest esteem & he was the last one I expected to fall in that serious matter.

Dr Fulton

The Archbishop & people brother. may God direct. Would him an ideal C. Brother! You in your treatment of him!

MTC