

## SECONDARY COLLEGE.

### OPENING OF DOWNLANDS.

Described by Bishop Byrne as "another link in the chain of culture and refinement in Toowoomba," the Downlands Secondary College, the first institution of its kind to be established in Australia by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, was blessed and officially opened by the Bishop of Toowoomba (Dr. Byrne) to-day, in the presence of a large gathering.

Monsignor M'Kenna (vicar-general of the diocese), who presided, extended a cordial welcome to the sacred Fathers and their international order of education. He pointed out that although Downlands was the first public school of its kind that the order had established in Australia, they had similar institutions in other countries, which had done wonderful work for the church. Pupils would be prepared from the third or fourth grade to matriculation standard.

The Mayor (Alderman F. J. Paterson), on behalf of the citizens, Mr. C. Clark, on behalf of the Catholic community of the diocese, and Brother Stirling (Christian Brothers) also spoke.

Father Fleming (provincial of the Order of the Sacred Fathers in Australia) said the order would do everything possible to make Downlands a credit to the Catholic Church, Toowoomba, and diocese.

The rector of Downlands (Father R. Hyland, Ms.C.) said they were proud that they had 60 foundation students, and if the order succeeded in their programme the students who went from Downlands would be the pride of their church and a credit to their country.

"In Downlands the word 'education' will find its meaning truly respected, as the physical and intellectual training of boys will be carefully attended to, while the atmosphere of the school will be religious, and will aim at the development of Christian life," said Bishop Byrne.

Monsignors Potter (Warwick) and Nolan (Dalby) also spoke.