

Brothers' school, Dunedin, now hold the record for such successes. On last Saturday, in Dunedin, they competed (on the age standard) in the twenty male events of the Otago Schools Championships (open to all the province). In the twenty events, they took nineteen firsts, and out of twenty-seven silver medals they captured twenty-six (eight being for firsts in relay races). They also carried away nine out of the sixteen bronze medals, and took, in addition, several second places for which no prizes were offered. Catholics are only about one-eighth of the local population. Yet, age for age, the Catholic boys made hay of their opponents. Such a field-day deserves an editorial record. More power to their feet—and elbows!

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Rev. Fathers O'Dwyer and Claffey, S.J., are now in Dunedin to conduct retreats in the Dominican and Mercy convents.

Miss Mary Woods, who has been prosecuting her musical studies in London for the past two years (says the 'Tuapeka Times') and has succeeded in obtaining the degree of L.R.A.M. (Licentiate Teacher, Royal Academy of Music, London, and Associate Pianiste, Trinity College, London), in addition to the degree of A.T.C.L., held by her prior to leaving the Colony, was a passenger by the 'Corinthic,' which arrived at Wellington on Thursday. In addition to taking the ordinary course at the Royal Academy of Music, London, Miss Woods was a private pupil of the world-renowned professor of singing, Alberto Randegger, and also the German professor, Oscar Beringer, for the piano. We heartily compliment Miss Woods on her very successful musical career, and congratulate the district on having the services of such a high-class musician. Miss Woods is an ex-pupil of St. Dominic's College, Dunedin, where she made a record of 100 marks (the maximum) in the Senior Trinity College piano examination.

THE IRISH DELEGATES

OTHER ENTHUSIASTIC MEETINGS

GORE.

We learn by telegraph from an occasional correspondent that Mr. Devlin, M.P., addressed a large and representative gathering at Gore on Tuesday evening. The meeting was presided over by Mr. MacGibbon, Mayor of Gore, who, in introducing the distinguished visitor, spoke in favor of the aspirations of the Irish Nationalist Party, for self-government. Mr. Devlin's address was marked with great power and eloquence. It created great enthusiasm, and at its close the orator was greeted with a prolonged outburst of cheering.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Poppelwell in an able speech: That a hearty vote of thanks be awarded to Mr. Devlin for his interesting and instructive address, and that in the opinion of this meeting the granting to the Irish people such a measure of Home Rule as is enjoyed by this and the other self-governing British colonies would be in the best interests, not only of Ireland, but of the Empire as a whole.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Kelly in a sympathetic speech and passed amidst great applause. A sum of about £100 was realised on the occasion for presentation to Mr. Devlin in aid of the Home Rule cause. This included £25, which, at the instance of the patriotic Father J. F. O'Donnell, of Queens-town, was collected locally and brought to Gore by a special representative.

DUNEDIN.

Mr. Devlin arrived in Dunedin yesterday afternoon, and was met at the Railway Station by a representative gathering from the reception committee. He is the guest of his Lordship the Bishop. Mr. Devlin addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting in Dunedin last (Wednesday) night. A report will appear in our next issue.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mr. Devlin speaks in Oamaru this (Thursday) evening. For further engagements see page 14. The Wellington meeting takes place on December 21. The Town Hall (writes our correspondent) has been secured for the purpose, and the Mayor has consented to preside.

A lengthy list of engagements for numerous other centres in New Zealand has been submitted to Mr. Devlin. We hope to publish further arrangements in our next issue.

The reception committee in connection with the visit of the Irish envoys (writes our Christchurch correspondent) met on last Thursday evening, and arranged various matters of detail. Tickets for the meeting of the delegates in His Majesty's Theatre were circulated, and are selling freely.

A representative and enthusiastic meeting (writes our Timaru correspondent) was held in the Foresters' Hall on the evening of December 3 to arrange a fitting reception to Mr. Devlin, M.P. Rev. Father Bowden, M.A., briefly stated the purpose of the gathering, and those present at once got to business and elected the following committee:—President, Mr. McMullin; secretary, Mr. M. F. Dennehy; treasurer, Mr. D. Mahoney. Delegates were appointed to visit the outlying districts on Sunday for subscriptions, and the meeting terminated. Mr. Devlin will speak in Timaru next Friday night, and up to the present about £90 have been received, the more prominent contributions thus far being Messrs. D. Mahoney, McMullin, and E. Ward, £10 10s, H. Rothwell £5 5s, and S. G. Raymond £5.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 10.

A fancy fair and sale of work were opened in St. Joseph's schoolroom, Lyttelton, on last Thursday, and continued over the following evening.

On last Saturday evening, in honor of the feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Convent of the Sacred Heart was brilliantly illuminated by the Sisters of Our Lady of Missions. Every window of the large building had its quota of lighted candles, the effect being very fine.

At a special children's Mass, celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., at eight o'clock in the Cathedral on last Sunday morning, 136 boys and girls, after a three-days' retreat, made their First Communion, and were afterwards entertained at breakfast, which was laid in the Marist Brothers' school. Ladies of the congregation provided the necessities, and also attended the children. At half-past three in the afternoon the children's mission was solemnly closed by the Rev. Father McDermott with the Papal Blessing. The first communicants of the morning renewed their baptismal vows, and, after Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took part in an out-door procession through the adjoining grounds.

The mission of the Redemptorist Fathers in the Cathedral has been attended with very gratifying results during the week, the congregations at all the services being uniformly large. The impressive sermons of the missionaries well maintain the traditions of their great religious Order. The first great solemnity of the mission was observed on last Friday evening in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, the preacher for the occasion being the Very Rev. Father Clune. On Sunday evening there was a very large congregation, the main sitting accommodation was quickly absorbed, the corridors were next filled, and finally the overflow were accommodated in the sanctuary and galleries. The Very Rev. Father Clune delivered an eloquent discourse on 'Faith.'

Whilst feeling gratified at the large attendance, morning and evening during the week, at the mission (said the Very Rev. Father Clune at the Cathedral on last Sunday morning), I have also a good memory for faces, especially men's. Now during this Mass (he continued) I have just been carefully examining the congregation, with the result that I have seen many here that I have not previously observed. I am thus forced to the conclusion that a large body of men select one of the early Masses, the shortest for preference, and one at which a sermon is not usually preached, for the discharge of what they still have sufficient faith left to consider their religious duty. We (the missionaries) intend during the remainder of our stay here preaching a mission sermon at all the Masses on Sundays.

By the time these lines appear in print there is no doubt the attendance at the Exhibition will have more than reached the first half million. It may be easily inferred, therefore, that the general manager's estimate of two millions for the season will be quite possible of attainment. The Exhibition in itself may be considered now in a perfect state, and fresh novelties are from time to time introduced. In out-door attractions the amusement-loving public have never before had such a variety. By the generosity of Sir John Hall, Mayor of the city, who bears the whole

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