

favorable, and the attendance at the concert in the Town Hall consequently suffered. Those who braved the elements were well repaid, for the programme submitted of Irish national airs was in the hands of excellent artists. Encores were the order of the evening. Miss Amy Murphy was heard to advantage in 'The minstrel boy,' 'The harp that once,' and 'Killarney.' She had to reappear after each of her items. Misses Morrison and Van Staveren, both very accomplished and promising vocalists, were similarly honored by an enthusiastic audience. Miss Morrison's items were 'Kathleen Mavourneen' and 'Rich' and rare were the gems she wore. Miss Van Staveren contributed 'The green Isle of Erin,' and the 'Irish lullaby.' Appreciative items were rendered by Messrs. Leslie Hill and C. Clarkson. The singing by Master Foote of 'The dear little shamrock' and other national melodies was received with great enthusiasm, and he had to reappear three times. The orchestral music was supplied by an orchestra under Mr. W. McLaughlan, who played most of the accompaniments, and acted as director of the concert. All concerned with the arrangement of the sports and concert are deserving of praise for the manner of their efforts. Had the weather been fine, the records of past years would have been easily eclipsed. A special word of praise is due to Mr. J. Callaghan for the zeal and energy he displayed in fostering and promoting both undertakings.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

The dramatic branch of St. Mary's Catholic Club staged the comedy, 'Confusion,' at the annual St. Patrick's Day entertainment, which was held in the Opera House on Monday evening, 18th inst. The weather was exceedingly wet and stormy, which militated considerably against the attendance. Nevertheless there was a fair audience, who enjoyed themselves immensely, judging by the applause. The play was well staged and admirably performed. Mrs. H. Glubb as Lucretia Tickleby fully maintained her reputation as a capable actress. Miss M. Peyman, who portrayed the part of Maria, was very good. Mr. H. Glubb acted in his usual easy and finished manner as Mortimer Mumbleford, while as Christopher Blizzard Mr. Thomas Mahoney sustained the favorable opinion already formed of him. Mr. J. Cook as James kept the audience highly amused, and the acting of Miss M. McKinnon as Rose was greatly admired. The minor parts were capably filled by Miss D. McLean (Violet), Mr. G. D'O (Rupert Sunbery), Mr. J. J. Logan (Dr. Jones), Mr. A. McLean (Michael Muzzle). The first part of the programme consisted of songs and instrumental items, which were well received, and was as follows: Overture, O'Hara's orchestra; Irish jig, Mr. Murphy; song, 'Cushla Macree,' Miss N. Dempsey; song, 'The bridge,' Mr. Sheehan (encored); song, 'Eileen Alannah,' Mrs. Thos. Lloyd; song, 'Home,' Mr. W. Pinches; violin solo, 'The lost chord,' Mr. Emison Gilby.

Hokitika

(From our own correspondent.)

A large and enthusiastic audience was present at the St. Patrick's Day concert, which was given in the Princess Theatre, the proceeds being in aid of the building fund of the new hall for the Catholic Debating Society. The principal musical and dramatic talent of the town assisted, and the result was an excellent entertainment. The musical portion of the programme opened with a selection by the Volunteer Band, followed by a piano duet, 'St. Patrick's Night,' played with great taste by Misses E. Daly and R. Bock. This was followed with a song, 'Home Rule,' by Miss Talnui, which was enthusiastically encored. Mr. Goodall gave a cornet solo, 'The minstrel boy,' for which he was recalled. The Rev. Father Galerne, of Reefton, sang 'Three leaves of shamrock.' The audience were delighted, and insisted on a double encore. Miss Leone Malfroy sang 'My Irish Molly O,' and was obliged to respond to a hearty encore. Mr. W. Bray followed with a comic song. Miss Annie Malfroy sang 'The meeting of the waters.' The orchestra, organised by the Rev. Father Aubrey, S.M., Messrs. Seymour and Bray, Misses K. Foster, U. and M. Sullivan, and N. O'Connor, played selections of Irish airs. Mr. Maloney was encored for his song. A hornpipe danced by Mr. Lavin concluded the first portion of the programme, and being loudly redemanded, he was obliged to respond. The accompanists were Mrs. C. Malfroy, Misses A. Daly, Seymour, and Mr. Heupel. Prior to the interval Mr. Toomey (president of the Debating Society) thanked the

Hokitika Volunteer Band and the other performers for their excellent concert and the audience for their generous support. He stated it was the Debating Society's desire to erect their own hall, and he thanked the Rev. Father Aubrey on their behalf for having donated to them a piece of land on which to erect the building. The performance concluded with a most amusing farce, 'The Irish Tiger,' in which Misses Allen, and Madeline Moore took part, and also Messrs. Pfeifer, Burrell, Breeze, Sellers, and Bock.

Hawera

(From an occasional correspondent.)

March 18.

Very Rev. Father Power had a great field day here on Sunday, March 17. He had a fine procession in honor of St. Patrick. A collection was taken up on behalf of the parish debt. The Rev. Father informed me this morning the indications are that the debt will be reduced by about £100 as a result.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

March 25.

The St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Timaru were confined to a children's picnic to Waimate. About 300 children and a good number of adults took part, and left by special train at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, returning about 8 p.m. Good prizes were given for the various races (children's and adults'), and refreshments were provided. The day was a most enjoyable one, and the committee (Rev. Father Finnerty being president and Mr. N. D. Mangos secretary) are to be complimented on the completeness of the arrangements.

Auckland

(From our own correspondent.)

March 22.

The St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Auckland were blessed with glorious weather, and the demonstration to Motutapu of the children was eminently successful. The committee in future-like celebrations would do well if they were to provide more boats for the homeward journey. From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. is too long an interval to keep a huge crowd awaiting embarkation. With this exception the outing was all that could be desired. There must have been at least 5000 all told of excursionists on the island. The children as they marched through Queen street in their snow white dresses and profusion of green ribbon and rosettes, and bearing banners and bannerettes, accompanied by their teachers and three bands, evoked the highest encomiums from onlookers who lined the way. A well-known non-Catholic clergyman exclaimed: 'No other denomination in Auckland could turn out like this.' It was certainly creditable. At the island each of the four city parishes had its own tent from which good things were dispensed to the children by willing workers. The girls from the Star of the Sea Orphanage and the boys from Takapuna Orphanage were the objects of general admiration for their neat, tidy, and smart appearance. The latter went through a course of drill on the ground and won loud applause.

In the competitive drill for the possession of the banner the children from the Surry Hills convent school, under the Sisters of St. Joseph, wrested it from last year's winners (the children of the Sacred Heart Convent school, Ponsonby). The Bishop, the Very Rev. Father Chene, Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., all the local clergy, the Hon. Mr. Heydon, M.L.C., New South Wales, and the Hibernian delegates from all parts of the Colony were present.

On Sunday morning, St. Patrick's Day, the Hibernian Society's district officers, visiting delegates, and officers and members of the local branch attended a special Mass at 8.15 at the Cathedral and approached the Holy Table. There must have been close upon two hundred present. It was a fine sight. After Mass they marched in processional order from the church up Hobson street to the Hibernian Hall, where the breakfast was laid. His Lordship the Bishop presided, having on his right the new district president, Bro. T. Corbett, and the Hon. Mr. Heydon on his left. There were also present the Very Rev. Dean Hackett and Rev. Fathers Holbrook and Cahill. After breakfast his Lordship the Bishop briefly spoke, and expressed

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