

ing, and the exhibition coming on the recommendation of such an eminent violinist as Mr. Henry St. George, was a most praiseworthy feature. Miss O'Neill was fifth on the list for the examinations held in New Zealand, Canada, and Tasmania. 'Facts are stubborn things and speak for themselves,' said the speaker, 'and the success of the fifty pupils and the two distinctions that had been gained bore out the old saying most conclusively.' Touching on the advance of the convent, the speaker said that when the institution was established there were only six Sisters in the convent, and now after a comparatively short period more than three times that number were scarcely able to cope with the work. In addition to this a branch convent had been established at Pahiataua. In conclusion he thanked all those who were present and expressed the wish that their patronage would not only be continued, but considerably widened in the good cause of the convent.

### Palmerston North

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 21.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with the usual national concert in the Zealandia Hall. There was a very large attendance, including Lady Plunket and suite. The hall was tastefully decorated with palms and ferns, which gave a charming appearance to the stage. One of the features of the evening was a strong orchestra of twelve performers, under the baton of Mr. W. T. Ward, which gave two very fine selections. The following was the programme:—Part I.: 'Irish National Overture,' orchestra; song, Mr. J. Rogers; song, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' Miss Segrief; pianoforte solo, Miss O'Connor; vocal trio, 'Erin Mavourneen,' Mesdames Larcomb and Broad, Miss Segrief; song, 'Killarney,' Mrs. C. Louisson; song and chorus, 'Eileen Allana,' Mr. T. Rodgers and chorus. Part II.: 'Humors of Donnybrook,' orchestra; recitative and air from 'The Lily of Killarney,' 'From Inchegala,' 'It is a charming girl I love,' Mr. Rowe; song, 'The meeting of the waters,' Mrs. Broad; quartette, 'Oh! where's the slave?' Mesdames Louisson and Broad, Messrs. T. Rodgers and G. C. Keeble; song, 'The Irish emigrant,' Mrs. Rennall; song, 'The minstrel boy,' Mr. G. C. Keeble; song, 'She is far from the land,' Miss Segrief; song and chorus, 'God save Ireland,' Mr. Rowe and chorus; 'God save the King.' All the numbers were well received and mostly encored. The accompaniments were artistically played by Miss Rawlins, Mrs. J. Rogers, and Mrs. T. Rodgers, whilst Miss Ward presided at the piano in the orchestral items. The energetic committee, who had worked so hard prior to the function, had their reward in the splendid success of the night's entertainment.

Two successful candidates in the recent teachers' examinations were prepared at the Convent of Mercy, Grey-mouth—Miss Honora Trouland (Class C) and Miss Ethel Dempsey (Partial D).

A list of the winning numbers in the art union in aid of the Convent, Winton, appears in this issue.

The All Seasons' Carnival, which opens in His Majesty's Theatre, Christchurch, on April 10, promises to be the most entertaining display ever seen in that city. The marches, dances, artistic groupings, and typical tableaux will be given under the direction of Madam Cathro, whose experience in this line with several of the principal opera companies is a guarantee that the spectacular effects will be most charming. The carnival is in aid of the Cathedral parish building fund, and will no doubt receive the most generous support and assistance from the Catholics of Christchurch and district....

## OBITUARY

### MRS. BRIDGET O'CONNOR, DUNEDIN.

The many friends of Constable Michael O'Connor throughout the Dominion will hear with sincere regret of the death of his wife, which took place at her residence, Union street, Dunedin, on Saturday last. The deceased, who was in her 58th year, was born in Deryline, County Fermanagh, and at an early age went to the United States, where she married Mr. O'Connor. Soon after they came to New Zealand, where Mr. O'Connor entered the police force 28 years ago. Since then he has been stationed in various parts of the Dominion, but for the past fifteen years has been in Dunedin. The late Mrs. O'Connor was a practical and fervent Catholic, and died fortified by the rites of the Church. The funeral took place on Wednesday from St. Joseph's Cathedral for the Southern Cemetery. The deceased leaves a husband, four sons, and two daughters to mourn their loss. The youngest son is at present a student at the Christian Brothers' Training College, Strathfield, Sydney.—R.I.P.

### MR. JAMES SPEDDARI, GIMMERBURN.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of one of the oldest pioneers of Otago Central in the person of Mr. James Speddari, who passed away at the Naseby Hospital on March 16 after a very long illness. The deceased was a native of Malta, and arrived in Otago about 50 years ago. He spent a considerable number of years mining in and around the Naseby district, eventually settling down to farming in Gimmerburn, where he had resided up to the time of his demise. Mr. Speddari, who leaves a family of four, was predeceased by his wife, who died several years ago. The family are Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. P. McLane, Miss Speddari, and Mr. Speddari. The remains were removed from the Naseby Hospital to the residence of the deceased, from where the funeral left for the cemetery. Notwithstanding the inclement weather a very large number of mourners were present to pay a last tribute of respect to one who was greatly esteemed. The Rev. Father McMullan officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

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