

a recent Governor of New Zealand upon the religious convictions of a portion of the population. And even in the minor field of the Cook Islands it behoves the head of the local Government to maintain in his official capacity a decent measure of neutrality, and not to embroil himself in the rivalries of creed and creed.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, of Gore, leaves for a trip to Europe on next Monday. During his absence his duties will be taken up by Rev. Father Delany.

The Hibernian Defence Cadets under Lieutenants J. B. Callan, jun., and S. Columb, went into camp at the Heads on Thursday evening. On Easter Sunday Mass was celebrated at the camp by the Rev. Father Liston, when, in addition to the Hibernian Cadets, there were numbers present from the other corps.

The arrangements for the opening ceremonies in connection with the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Cromwell, on next Sunday are now completed. As previously mentioned the ceremony of blessing and opening will be performed by his Lordship the Bishop, who will also preach in the morning. The sermon in the evening will be preached by the Rev. Father Murphy (Riverton). A report of the opening ceremony, with an engraving of the new church, will appear in our next issue.

On Easter Sunday in addition to the early Masses at St. Joseph's Cathedral there was Pontifical High Mass at eleven o'clock, his Lordship the Bishop being celebrant, Rev. Dr. Cleary assistant priest, Rev. Father O'Reilly deacon of the Mass, Rev. C. Collins (Holy Cross College) subdeacon, Rev. Father Delany and Rev. H. Woods (Holy Cross College) deacons at the throne, and Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies. The music, Gounod's No. 3 Mass, was rendered in a finished manner by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. Vallis. In the evening there were Pontifical Vespers, when his Lordship officiated, Rev. Father Corcoran being deacon, Rev. H. Woods subdeacon, and Rev. C. Collins cantor. At the conclusion of Vespers the members of the choir were entertained by his Lordship, who thanked them for their services, and congratulated them on the efficient manner in which they had rendered the music at the day's ceremonies.

There were large congregations at all the Masses and devotions at St. Joseph's Cathedral during Holy Week. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant of the Mass on Holy Thursday, Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay (Oamaru) being assistant priest, Rev. Father O'Reilly deacon of the Mass, Rev. C. Collins (Holy Cross College) subdeacon, and Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., master of ceremonies. The sermon in the evening on the Blessed Eucharist was preached by the Rev. Father Lynch (Palmerston). His Lordship the Bishop celebrated the Mass of the Presanctified on Good Friday, the Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore) being assistant priest, Rev. P. O'Neill (Wrey's Bush) deacon; and Rev. M. Scanlan (Holy Cross College) subdeacon. The occasional sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Morkane (Lawrence). The Rev. Father D. O'Neill (South Dunedin) preached in the evening on the Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On Saturday the Rev. Dr. Cleary was celebrant of the Mass, Rev. Father O'Reilly being deacon; and Rev. Father Corcoran subdeacon. His Lordship the Bishop presided at Tenebrae on the evenings of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and in addition to the clergy of the Cathedral the following were present in the sanctuary during the Holy Week ceremonies:—Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, Rev. Father Lynch, Rev. Father Howard, Rev. Father Hearn, Rev. Father O'Malley, Rev. P. O'Neill, Rev. Fathers Ryan, Liston, and Buckley (Holy Cross College), Rev. D. O'Neill, Rev. Father Morkane. The beautiful singing of the 'Benedictus' and 'Miserere' by the students of Holy Cross College, and their rendering of sacred psalmody at Tenebrae were pleasing features of the impressive ceremonies of Holy Week.

We understand that two of the Redemptorist Fathers in Wellington—Rev. Fathers Lowham and McDermott—will leave shortly for Australia.

Of 219 men employed by the Christchurch City Council, 185 are married and 30 single; 93 are ratepayers and 122 non-ratepayers; 83 were born in New Zealand, 102 in Great Britain, 24 in Australia, and six in other places.

The average speed of the new express service between Invercargill and Christchurch, including stoppages, is 31 miles 10 chains per hour, or about 50 per cent. faster than the mail train between Wellington and New Plymouth.

FEDERATED CATHOLIC CLUBS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(From our Wellington correspondent.)

The eighth annual Conference of the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand was opened in the St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott street, at 10 o'clock on Easter Saturday. The president of the Federation, Mr. A. H. Casey, occupied the chair, and there were present his Grace Archbishop Redwood, the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., and Rev. Father Venning, S.M. The representation was as follows:—Federal Executive, Messrs. A. H. Casey, P. J. McGovern, and E. J. Leydon; Ashburton, Mr. C. Gamble; Auckland, Messrs. A. Cullen and J. Shanaghan; Blenheim, Mr. E. Higgins; Christchurch, Messrs. P. McNamara and F. Hickmott; Dunedin, Messrs. G. Dee and S. J. Moran; Dunedin South, not represented; Greymouth, Messrs. E. Casey and P. J. Smyth; Hastings, Messrs. J. McQuirk and D. Dowling; Hikitika, Mr. J. J. Burke; Invercargill, Messrs. M. O'Kane and D. Mulvey; Napier, Mr. F. McDonald; New Plymouth, Messrs. J. J. Sullivan and T. Boyce; Oamaru, Mr. G. J. Pama; Onehunga, not represented; Palmerston North, Messrs. W. Scanlon and J. J. Callaghan; Petone, Messrs. T. Fitzgerald and O. O'Hare; Temuka, Mr. L. T. Reichel; Wanganui, Mr. J. R. Hunt; Wellington, Messrs. J. McGowan and J. W. Callaghan; Wellington South, Messrs. D. Moriarty and E. Foote.

Our correspondent's report of the proceedings not having come to hand we take the following report from the *Dominion*:—

His Grace Archbishop Redwood extended a very cordial welcome to the delegates, and referred to the great work which was being done by the Catholic clubs throughout the Dominion. He urged upon the members the desirability of being loyal to their club, and taking every advantage of its benefits, as by doing so they would be true sons of the Church and worthy citizens of the Dominion.

The Very Rev. Father O'Shea, president of the Wellington Catholic Club, also extended a welcome, and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a representative attendance.

The Rev. Father Venning, spiritual director, also extended a welcome to members.

Two newly-formed clubs, Timaru and St. Canice's (Westport), were admitted to the Federation.

Alterations and additions to rules were made as follow: The power of nominating to the annual conference the officers for the ensuing year was vested in a joint committee of five executive officers from all federated Catholic clubs within a radius of ten miles of Wellington. The representation of clubs at the conference was fixed at one delegate for less than fifty members, and two for more than fifty. A new rule was passed providing that each affiliated club should arrange for the celebration on the first Sunday in September of each year of a Mass for the repose of souls of deceased members.

Provision was made for delegates from any established club not admitted to the federation, and from any town where it is proposed to establish a club, to attend the annual conference.

Power was given to the executive to appoint an official representative on the executive of each club, and power was also given to any accredited member of an affiliated club when visiting Wellington to attend the meetings and take part in the discussions of the federation executive.

A notice of motion that the annual conference be held alternately at Wellington and Christchurch, and an amendment that it be restricted to the four centres, provoked a lengthy discussion, but they were eventually defeated. The conference reserved to itself the right to fix the locale of the gatherings, and Greymouth was selected as the place for the next.

A paper on 'The True Ideals of Catholic Clubs' was read by Mr. L. T. Reichel.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President-general, his Grace Archbishop Redwood; president, Mr. A. H. Casey; vice-president, Mr. H. McKeown; hon. secretary, Mr. S. J. Moran; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. McGowan; committeemen, Messrs. P. J. McGovern, L. T. Reichel, and D. Moriarty.

Votes of thanks to the outgoing officers, to Messrs. J. McCusker, and J. R. Hunt, and the president (Mr. A. H. Casey) brought the conference to a close.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, in charge of the Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, have received from the Very Rev. Dean Phelan, V.G., treasurer of the Irish national concert, the sum of £170 14s 1d. This is the largest sum the institution has ever received from this popular celebration.