

Many of these old sayings become changed in the course of time and so lose all significance. You have often heard it stated that when your right hand is itching, it is a sign you are going to get money. The correct version is that when your right hand is itchy, it is a sign that a papillary irritation has been set up, and needs that gentle titillation known as rubbing as a corrective. In the same way, gymnasts say that if you wear goloshes you will get sore eyes. What is meant is, that if you wear another fellow's goloshes you will get sore eyes. The other fellow will give them to you.

Quips

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

On Monday morning a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop Moran was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral. The celebrant was his Lordship Bishop Verdon, Rev. Father O'Reilly deacon, Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon, and the Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., assistant priest.

The weekly meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club was held on Friday night in St. Joseph's Hall, when there was a large attendance. The evening's amusement consisted of a tournament, for which prizes were given. Mr Brady secured the first prize, while Mr H. Miles was the lucky winner of the second. Refreshments were provided, and those present were unanimous in their verdict that it was the pleasantest evening spent this season. Entries are now being received for a ping-pong tournament, which is to take place shortly, and for which prizes will be offered.

The Rev. Father Cleary, in the course of a private letter, written on April 23, while staying at the Trappist Monastery, St. Norbert, Manitoba, where he and Father Barlow received the greatest kindness and hospitality, says that the scenery of the Rocky Mountains surpassed in beauty anything that he had ever seen—even Switzerland was not to be compared to this wonderland of Canada. The railway passes through 600 miles of the most magnificent scenery in the world. They arrived at Brandon, Canada, on April 19, and stayed there a couple of days, during which they received much kindness from the Redemptorist Fathers. A New Zealand nun, Sister Mary Gonzaga, is Superiress of the local convent of the Sisters of the Mission. Fathers Cleary and Barlow arrived in St. Boniface, Winnipeg, on April 21, and were received very hospitably by Archbishop Langevin, O.M.I., and his priests. After leaving St. Boniface they were to separate for a short time in order to visit friends, but were to meet later on in Chicago, and from there were to go on to Boston by way of Detroit, Toronto, Niagara, Ottawa, Montreal, and New York. They were to leave Boston for Queens-town by one of the steamers of the Dominion Line, which was to sail on May 28.

On Wednesday evening of last week the members of St. Joseph's Ladies' Club held a social gathering in St. Joseph's Hall to which they invited a number of their friends. The attendance was very large, upwards of 200 persons being present. An excellent programme of games and musical selections was provided, and all present heartily enjoyed themselves. Messrs Davis, Finer, and O'Neill contributed vocal items and Messrs Fraser and Poppelwell pianoforte selections, all of which were received with hearty applause. The performers deserve the thanks of the club for helping so materially towards the success of the evening. The accompaniments were played in an efficient manner by Miss Poppelwell. Refreshments were provided by the club. The club is doing very good work, and although its membership is large, still the number would very soon be doubled if the young ladies of the congregation were fully aware of its scope. The club is a means of bringing the lady members of the congregation together in social intercourse, providing them with healthy amusement, and giving them an opportunity of acquiring useful knowledge. Features of last year's work were the cooking and fancy work classes which are continued this season, and in addition Mr. Anthony has kindly consented to conduct a dramatic class. For those who desire to spend an hour or two in relaxation, ping-pong and other means of enjoyment are provided.

An entertainment of a varied description was given on Friday evening in St. Patrick's schoolroom by the children attached to the Orphanage of St. Vincent de Paul, South Dunedin, and despite the inclement weather there was a large attendance. An opening chorus by about thirty children was well received. This was followed by a play, in three parts, entitled 'The Violet Sellers,' and consisted of recitations, songs, choruses, club drill, fan drill, hoop drill, dumbbells, etc. The performers were all thoroughly well up in their parts, the recitations and singing especially being noticeable for distinctness and good pronunciation; and the audience showed their appreciation of the children's efforts by frequent applause. To Miss Mowat special mention must be given for the instruction imparted to the children in the various exercises, which were gone through in a very creditable manner. The appearance of so many young children on the stage, all neatly attired, and with healthy and contented looks, impressed those present with their being well cared for by the good Sisters in charge of the Orphanage. At the conclusion of the entertainment the Rev. Father Coffey said he was pleased to see such a large audience present, and thanked them for their attendance. He congratulated the Sisters of Mercy on the perfection attained by the children, and referred to the large amount of good work that was being done at the Orphanage. He also expressed their indebtedness to Miss Mowat for the admirable manner in which she had trained the children in their various exercises.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

The Defence expenditure in this Colony increased by nearly £100,000 last year, having gone up from £244,215 to £340,059.

The amount expended on Old Age Pensions for the year ending March 31 was £207,468, being £11,000 more than the previous year. This amount is equal to an annual tax of 5s per head of the population.

The May number of the *Austral Light* is a specially good one. The Rev. Dr. Sheehan, author of 'My New Curate,' contributes a very fine article, entitled 'Mary, the Morning Star,' and Mr W. Parkinson gives some very interesting hints on the 'Art of Singing.' The Rev. J. E. King writes on the 'Origin of Species,' and Mr H. Farmer has something to say on the late 'Empire builder' of South Africa. The oratory of the Liberator, Daniel O'Connell, is dealt with by the Rev. John Murphy. Among the other contributors are F. S. O'Donnell, Eleonore de Castella, Una Roe, J. H. B. Curtis, Rev. M. Watson, S.J., and 'Outis.'

MEN who take part in public affairs very often receive more criticism than thanks for their work. Mr P. Hally, of Dunedin, cannot say that his public services are not appreciated. Some time ago he was presented with a purse of sovereigns by his friends in the Caversham electorate, and a few days ago he was the recipient of a similar token of appreciation from the Federated Tailoresses Union. Mr Myers, in making the presentation, said that the union felt that no monetary reward could adequately express their gratitude for Mr Hally's untiring zeal, nor for his self-denying exertions on their behalf, but they hoped Mr Hally would regard the accompanying presents as, at all events, some indication of their feelings. Mrs Hally was also presented with a gold chain.

THE Right Hon. Mr Seddon cables to Sir J. G. Ward as follows:—Passed a pleasant time at Pretoria; the guest of the Administrator. Had tea with Lord Milner and dinner with Lord Kitchener. Had a long interview with both yesterday. Very satisfactory. Right men in right place. To-day visited Elandsfontein Hospital, where there are 49 New Zealand patients. There are no serious cases; chiefly dysentery, rheumatism, and enteric. Lord Kitchener has sent Colonel Birdwood with us. General Baden-Powell also accompanies us. The feeling for New Zealand is cordial. The Administrator practically admits our land settlement conditions are best suited for South Africa. On May 23 Mr Seddon inspected the Ninth Contingent at Vereeniging, concerning which he cabled to the Acting Premier as follows:—'I gave a short address and the latest New Zealand news. All along the line we have been well received. At Bloemfontein an illuminated address was presented by the borough expressing great satisfaction at New Zealand's action in South Africa and Imperial federation. I was also entertained by a large number of New Zealanders, who are doing well. I made a short stay at De Aar, and was met by the Midland Railway Commissioner. The Director-general of Railways accompanies us right through. We have nothing to learn on railway questions. The peace negotiations are satisfactory. The opinion that no further contingents are required is confirmed.'

A MATTER of considerable importance to the public was brought before the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Canterbury on Friday night. One of the leading chemists moved:—That this Association disapprove of giving secret commissions to doctors in any form whatever. He said that a great evil had grown out of the practice of giving these commissions, one Christchurch firm paying commissions amounting to 50 per cent. on the retail price. The outcome of the practice was that nine out of ten prescriptions written by some medical men would contain the name of the firm referred to. Out of every prescription worth 2s 6d the amount of 1s 3d would go in commission given by that firm. Another evil was that druggists, who frequently paid 50 per cent. in commission, could not make up the loss by a higher charge, as they were in competition with other druggists, and when the doctor had to receive 50 per cent. it reduced the chemist to such a position that he could not honestly dispense prescriptions. There had been several notorious cases wherein the health of the patients had been considerably injured by that practice. There were other cases in which the matter had been brought under the notice of the doctor, who, though aware that the prescription had not been honestly made up, refused to go to the chemist who dispensed it and complain, as he was in the same box as the chemist. In the discussion that ensued one chemist stated that there were doctors in the city who libelled the druggists who did not give them commissions, but took good care they did not come within the libel law. Another speaker said that there were many cases where a certain preparation was ordered of standard brand, and the chemist's own brand was made up owing to the expensive drugs needed for the prescription. Eventually the motion was carried unanimously.

An intelligent, single man, to act as groom and gardener, is required for Christchurch...

Mr E. F. King, proprietor of the Empire Hotel, Lyttelton, will be pleased at any time to see his old friends, who will find at the above hotel excellent accommodation, combined with civility....

The well-known hotel, the Waverley, in Mornay place, Dunedin, of which Mr H. Coughlan is proprietor, has just been thoroughly renovated and brought up to date in every respect. It is centrally situated, being only a few minutes' walk from the railway station, the post office, and the banks. Visitors to Dunedin will find it very comfortable and home-like, and the genial proprietor will leave nothing undone to make the stay of patrons as pleasant as possible. A first-class table is a feature of the establishment, whilst at the same time the charges are extremely moderate....