

and Mr A. Vallis acted as accompanists. Refreshments having been handed round those present indulged in a dance for a couple of hours. At a meeting of the committee on Sunday Miss A. Heley was elected librarian, Mr C. Columb, assistant librarian, and Mr J. Woods, secretary.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

A PRIVATE home for inebriates is being established in Wellington.

MR PALMER, of Sydney, has been appointed town clerk of Wellington, at a salary of £800 per annum.

SATURDAY, August 9, has been definitely fixed by the Government as the day on which the Coronation holiday is to be observed.

THE troop ship Orient, with 1200 officers and men returning from South Africa, will make Port Chalmers her first port of call. The Orient is due here about August 5.

AT a meeting of the Wellington committee of subscribers to the Veterans' Home on Monday, it was announced that £859 had been collected in the city. It is anticipated that £2000 will be collected in the Wellington centre.

ON Monday afternoon a fishing boat containing William Clout, his son William, and another man named Thomas Lacy, all residents of Island Bay, capsized during a squall off Sinclair Head, Wellington. All three were drowned. The occurrence was witnessed by a party of fishermen.

THE Education Department has been requested to formulate a scheme in connection with the three scholarships for New Zealand which are to be founded by the executors of the will of the late Cecil Rhodes. Each scholarship will be tenable at Oxford for three years, and will be worth £300 per annum.

THE Irishmen of Blenheim have sent the treasurer of the Irish Federation, Wellington, the sum of £17 10s 6d, with a promise of more to follow, in support of the Irish Parliamentary Fund, and in appreciation of the 'persistent efforts of the Nationalist leaders in the attempt they are making to settle the people on the land.'

THE resolutions passed at the emergency meeting of the Wellington Harbor Board on the 16th inst., to raise a quarter of a million for dock construction, have been confirmed. The board resolved to draft a by-law imposing a harbor improvement rate, to be paid by vessels on all inward goods and transshipments discharged. The rate was fixed at 3d per ton for general goods and a proportionate amount on sundries.

At the Bisley Meeting the Kolapore Cup was won by the Australian team, with a score of 770, which is a record. The other scores were: Rhodesia, 758; Canada, 757; the Motherland, 755; Guernsey, 748; Natal, 746; New Zealand, 744; India, 708; and the West Indies, 602. The New Zealand team won the Belgian Cup and £20. The score was 101 points.

UNDER date June 21 our London correspondent writes as follows:—Amongst those present at the Imperial Institute on Monday night, June 16, at the reception given by the Agent-General, Mr W. Pember Reeves and Mrs Reeves, to meet the Right Hon. E. J. Seddon, Premier of New Zealand and Mrs Seddon were noticed the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, S.M., Mrs Holworthy (late Lady Buckley), Sir Westby Perceval, Mr John Blundell, and a host of others.

DR. EVANS, who is in charge of the Chemical Department of Canterbury College, has written to the Board of Governors explaining why he has sent orders for apparatus to Germany instead of England. He makes a strong case out against English manufacturers, who, he says, are unreliable and slow, while the English article is inferior to the German. He also says it is much cheaper to get apparatus from Germany, especially when large numbers of small articles are ordered.

THE Ashburton Catholic Literary Society held its usual weekly meeting on Wednesday evening, Mr W. Soal presiding. One member was proposed for membership, and after the ordinary business was got through, the programme for the evening was proceeded with. This was a speech competition, a handsome large album being given by one of the members for the best speech on the 'Advantages and Disadvantages of Working Men's Clubs and kindred Clubs.' The competition was good, 17 members competed, and Mr H. McSherry, who had evidently well considered the subject, though hard pushed by some other members, showed clearly that it was natural for human beings to club for social and mutual intercourse from the very earliest days. Villages, towns, and cities grew out of this. After a keen debate, Mr McSherry's view was endorsed by a good majority.

THE offices of several of our Catholic exchanges were visited by the Rev. Father Cleary during his stay in the United States, and all of our contemporaries express their appreciation of his work as editor of the N.Z. TABLET. The *Bulletin* of the International Catholic Truth Society, in its issue for June had the following:—'Rev. Henry W. Cleary, the distinguished editor of the N.Z. TABLET, visited New York during the past month. During his brief stay he met many old friends among the clergy and laity, who were no doubt, pleasantly amazed at this sudden apparition of an old acquaintance from the outer rim of the world. Father Cleary visited the general headquarters of the International Catholic Truth Society in Brooklyn, and expressed himself as much pleased at the work accomplished. He was especially interested in the Society's successful work in unmasking imposters of the Shepherd and Slatery type, and promised his active co-operation in further work of this kind. Father Cleary's able conduct of the N.Z. TABLET has given him a wide reputation among journalists. His paper is known

as one of the representative Catholic organs of the world. He has been successful in running to earth several notable imposters who were plying a lucrative trade in New Zealand.'

A LARGE number of promotions and transfers have been arranged to take effect immediately in the Post and Telegraph Department. The chief postmaster at Blenheim (Mr John Bull) retires on a pension, and will be succeeded by Mr Northcroft, at present postmaster at Tauranga. Mr Halliday is to be promoted from Balclutha to the postmastership at Tauranga, and Mr White (postmaster at Bulls, Rangitikei) goes to Balclutha. Mr Ashton, senior clerk and operator at Rotorua, is to be promoted to Bulls, and the senior clerk at Masterton (Mr Turner) is to be transferred to Rotorua. Mr H. H. Cork is to be transferred from Oamaru to Masterton. Mr M'Hutcheson, chief clerk at the G.P.O., Christchurch, replaces Mr Stevens at the Thames, Mr Stevens having been promoted to Nelson. Mr J. J. Greene, who has been temporarily attached to the C.P.O., Wellington, becomes postmaster at Port Nelson. Mr A. D. C. Clemett, now stationed at Mongonui, becomes postmaster at Foxton, replacing Mr MacDermott, transferred to Waimate, South Canterbury. Mr P. P. White, postmaster at Temuka, is transferred to Marton. Mr G. G. Woon, senior mail clerk at Wanganui, becomes chief clerk at Nelson; whilst Mr. C. A. Seymour, senior operator at Nelson, takes charge of the telegraph branch.

A LIST of the winning numbers in the art union in aid of the Dominican Convent, Dongarra, West Australia, is published in this issue. The *Goldfields Chronicle* has the following report of the drawing:—A gathering of ladies and gentlemen took place at the Dominican College, Dongarra, on the afternoon of the 13th June, the occasion being the drawing of the prizes in connection with the grand art union promoted in aid of the Dominican schools in Western Australia. After the prizes, which were arranged in the large study hall, had been inspected and much admired, the drawing took place. At the request of the Mother Prioress a committee of gentlemen was formed to conduct the proceedings. Two small children, a boy and a girl, drew respectively from two bags a ticket block and card marked with the number of the prize. Dr. Bartlett, J.P., jotted them down, then announced the number of the winning ticket and the number of the prize won. Great interest was taken in the drawing, and at the conclusion Dr. Bartlett congratulated the Mother Prioress on the well-arranged proceedings, everything going off so smoothly without a hitch. The prizes are, it is understood, well distributed throughout the various districts, and universal satisfaction was expressed at the value and beauty of them.

Obituary.

MR. MICHAEL KETT, INVERCARGILL.

An old and highly esteemed colonist, in the person of Mr Michael Kett, passed away at his residence, the Hibernian Hotel, Invercargill, on July 24. Mr Kett, who had reached the patriarchal age of 83 years, was born at Kilmichoma, Tipperary, and at the age of 22 left his native land for Australia, arriving in Sydney in 1811. After spending some six or seven years in New South Wales he left for California, attracted by the gold diggings. In 1856 he was back again in Australia, and took part in the principal rushes, including the celebrated Tachian diggings. On the discovery of gold in New Zealand he decided to try his luck here, and, with others, came across in the early sixties, landing at Lyttelton, and tramping it from Dunedin to the Arrow. With three mates, in a short time he got 40lbs weight of gold. Subsequently he purchased Frenchmen's Point claim, in partnership with Mr Feraud, which, after many ups and downs, proved a very profitable investment. When advancing years made it impossible to follow the hard life of a miner, he entered the hotelkeeping business, purchasing the Royal Hotel, Milton, where he resided for some 20 years, afterwards removing to Mataura, where he remained two years, then purchasing the Royal Hotel, Invercargill, about two years ago. Only a few months back Mr Kett bought the valuable property known as the Hibernian Hotel, the business being conducted by his nephew, Mr T. Kett. Mr Kett, who had never married, leaves only one relative in New Zealand, Mr T. Kett, who has been his manager for several years past. The deceased was extremely well known in all parts of Otago and Southland, and was highly respected for his sterling honesty and large-heartedness. He was a patriotic Irishman and a great lover of his native land. Mr Kett was a practical and consistent Catholic, and was a most generous giver to every good cause. The remains were brought to Milton for interment, and the funeral, which took place on Saturday, was attended by mourners from all parts of the Bruce district, many residents of Dunedin being also present. The Rev. Father Howard officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

If Cyclists or Footballers meet with accidents, they will find that Evan's WITCH'S OIL is infallible.—*.*

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