

'She (the Anglican Church) was a huge, loosely-organised institution, absolutely de-centralised, having no machinery for corporate action, and for want of a central council was without a policy. Having more regard to dispersion than to concentration, . . . she became bewildered with the multitude of appeals made to her on behalf of struggling and competing missions. The Catholic Church (he continued) was a wonderful witness to the value of centralisation. Her organisation was perfect everywhere; in the farthest ends of the world she knew what she was doing, and how to do it. That way was open to the Anglican Church also. A papacy at Canterbury might reduce the Anglican communion to discipline and order.' Two or three bachelor priests, living together in community with a deacon, might, said Bishop Julius, be of service in working certain districts the needs of which were stated.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

Timaru is settling down to ordinary life after the excitement of the band contest. The management committee has a most satisfactory surplus of about £50, after an expenditure of some £400. While the Wanganui Band has taken chief honors, the Timaru Band occupies a very prominent position, being second in the quick-step and third in the test piece. In the trios, quartets and solos several seconds and thirds were won by the local players, while in the E flat horn solo competition Master E. Mellow, aged about 14 or 15, gained first honors, beating several reputable players. The South Canterbury Pipe Band also succeeded in gaining the coveted premier position. The visiting bandsmen were highly pleased with Timaru, and several letters have been received from the different secretaries returning thanks for the hospitality accorded to them.

A poll of the ratepayers of the borough took place on the 14th inst. to sanction a loan of £6000, for the purpose of street levelling, and £2500 for improvements in Caroline Bay. Contrary to previous experiences in taking polls to sanction loans, both the loans mentioned were approved of by a large majority at the first poll. The street levelling, especially in the suburbs, is urgently needed, and as to the Caroline Bay improvements, the loan is a most advisable one, as the beach is now quite a resort for townspeople and visitors, and when the back ground is laid out and ornamented it should become one of the most popular seaside resorts in New Zealand.

A meeting of the local branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Monday last, and largely attended. The secretary reported that on the previous Sunday the president and several officers and members drove to St. Andrews and initiated four more members, all being proposed by Bro. Sullivan. Bro. Donovan (president) conducted the initiation, with the aid of Bro. Fitzgerald (secretary) and Bro. Sullivan, V.P., who acted as warden. The visitors were entertained at dinner at Mr. J. Keane's, and subsequently drove to Bro. P. Ryan's station, 'Esbank,' where they were accorded a most hearty welcome by the genial proprietor. The drive to Esbank was most enjoyable, and the country and bush around the property were much admired. Before leaving Bro. Dennehy, on behalf of the visitors, returned thanks to Bro. Ryan for his hospitality, eulogising the great interest Bro. Ryan had taken in Hibernianism during the past twenty years, and hoping he would have his wish realised in seeing in the near future a strong branch established at St. Andrews. The visitors left for home after a most enjoyable time, Bro. Sullivan, always alert, securing several candidates for membership during the day.

Christchurch Catholic Club.

(From our own correspondent.)

The new rooms of the Christchurch Catholic Club, recently fitted up in the Hibernian Hall, Barbadoes street, were formally opened on last Tuesday evening. His Lordship the Bishop, the Very Rev. Vicar-General, the Rev. Fathers Marnane, Richards, and O'Connell, Sir George and Lady Clifford, Mrs. A. J. White, and the Misses White, and a large number of members and invited guests were present.

The president, Mr. R. O. Duncan, in welcoming the visitors, said that the fact of the large attendance was most gratifying, and he hoped was a good omen for the future success and prosperity of the Club. In the past they had encountered ups and downs, and had many difficulties to contend with. The fine library, placed at their disposal by the Bishop in their old rooms, would be missed, at least so far as easy access to its contents was concerned. He was sorry the Rev. Father McDonnell

was unable to be present that evening; and eulogised their devoted chaplain's good work in regard to the Club. Much credit for past success was due to members of former executive committees, and all were keenly interested in the welfare of what would be made one of the leading Clubs of the city.

Sir George Clifford, in the course of a very fine address, said he desired first to thank the ladies for adding grace and attractiveness to the opening meeting. Personally, he was grateful to be present and privileged to take part in a work calculated to be of inestimable value. If their career in the past had not prospered as many should wish, the future was full of possibilities. In gathering together in clubs such as ours we meet those of our own faith; higher and nobler thoughts were engendered, the general tone of social intercourse elevated, all tended to make good Catholics, whose influence, when brought in contact with others, would combat that levity and lack of reverence so prevalent in the community. All should bear a part in extending the Church's dominion, and no power was better fitted for the task than Catholic organisations. Although we scarcely looked at the matter in the right perspective, slow but undoubtedly sure was the restoration of the Anglo-Saxon English-speaking race to the inheritance of St. Peter. Contemplate for a moment the majestic Cathedral, the glory of London, now about completed, and another a few paces from where we are at present gathered which is the admiration of New Zealand, and say have we not advanced. Moreover, the advantages gained are not grudged us by Christians of other denominations, they are advantages gained by the self-sacrificing devotion of our zealous clergy, who, prepared to face all the dangers of their predecessors of old, have inherited the esteem and admiration of all Christian citizens. Numerous examples could be quoted to illustrate the advantages to be gained by the individual and to religion in Catholic institutions such as the Club. The Church is not such a danger as it was formerly thought to be (of course erroneously), happy results largely contributed to by well-informed, good-living laity, spreading themselves among others, silently doing their duty to their religion, to their fellow-man, and to their country without cant and hypocrisy. He sincerely trusted the Club would prosper and continue to do the great work outlined in its constitution, and concluded by declaring the Club's rooms open.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes said he experienced a two-fold feeling at the speech just delivered. Admiration of the true Catholic sentiments expressed by Sir George Clifford, listened to with pleasure and satisfaction, and regret at not hearing him speak oftener in public. He desired to disagree with the president, who, in his introductory remarks, attributed most of the Club's past success to the clergy; this he disavowed. He did not wish the clergy to be too prominent in pursuits which were essentially the work of the laity. Such work would place the clergy at a disadvantage, and prejudices once formed were often with difficulty removed. He wished the Club a successful career.

Songs were given by Miss A. Carter, the Rev. Father O'Connell, and Messrs. E. McNamara, W. McKay, J. F. Shanly, R. Hayward, F. Evans, and R. A. Horne, and instrumental selections were given by Mr. J. Wright's bango band and Mr. C. Geoghegan's orchestra. Mr. Horne was the accompanist. Light refreshments were provided.

The Club rooms are large and well fitted with all the appliances necessary to such an institution, among them being a first-class piano and a good billiard table, on which an exhibition game was played during the evening by Sir George Clifford and the president.

The cable news received recently relative to the benefactions of Mr. Charles Schwab, the ex-president of the United States Steel Association, gives point to the following personal paragraph which appeared in a recent issue of an American Catholic paper: Mr. Schwab never had about him, even in his most puissant days, any of the arbitrary and domineering manner, or even the brusquerie, generally associated with kings of commerce. He is affable, sympathetic, and gentle, and has always been thoroughly democratic in his relations with his work-people. About the time of his 40th birthday he was introduced by Sir Thomas Lipton to King Edward at Marlborough House, with whom he had an audience lasting half an hour. As a boy he was the chief joker of his village school. One day his master, a great geologist, got each boy to bring a specimen of uncommon stone to class, promising to describe them severally. Taking the samples from the table one by one, the pedagogue said—'This is a piece of feldspar from the cross-roads. This is a piece of marl from the meadow. This is a piece of argillaceous sandstone from the quarry. And this'—he paused, and glared at the unexpected contribution of a common or garden half-brick—'and this is a piece of outrageous impertinence from Charles Schwab.'