

DO YOU DRINK

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA?

If not, why not?

OF ALL GROCERS AND STORE DEALERS

An enterprising Belgian journal has made inquiries as to the amount expended annually by Royal ladies on their toilettes, and has found the following facts (says the *Evening Standard*): Queen Victoria of Spain easily takes the first place as the best dressed Royal lady. She obtains all her dresses from Paris, and has to pay over to the great firms of the Rue de la Paix, a sum of no less than £8000 a year. The German Empress has all her dresses made in Berlin, at a cost not far below £4000. An equal sum is expended by the Czarina, who dresses in private very simply, and only goes in for expensive robes on State and festive occasions, which, however, are not frequent in view of the retired life

of the Russian Imperial Family. The same sum represents the cost of dresses to the wife of M. Poincare. Queen Elena of Italy spends only about £3200 a year, while the dress budget of Queen Elizabeth of Belgium does not exceed £2000. Her neighbor, Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, dresses still more modestly, and spends on her toilette only a few hundred pounds. But the palm of simplicity belongs to Queen Mary of England, who has all her dresses, with the exception of those for State occasions, made at home, under her own supervision, and with her own co-operation, so that her budget is the lowest of all.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

The fortnightly meeting of the St. Mary's branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Wednesday evening, February 10, when there was a good attendance of members. The president (Bro. D. Dwyer) occupied the chair, and Very Rev. Dean Holley paid his first visit to the branch since his return from Europe. The president extended a hearty welcome to him. Dean Holley, in reply, referred to the great advance Hibernianism had made in Wanganui, which he was proud of, for when he attempted to start the branch many said he was engaged in a hopeless task. But that, he was proud to say, was not the case, it being proved beyond doubt that there was great scope for a large branch in the town and district, and that the society had come to stay. He was loudly applauded when he resumed his seat. Two candidates were proposed and one member was initiated.

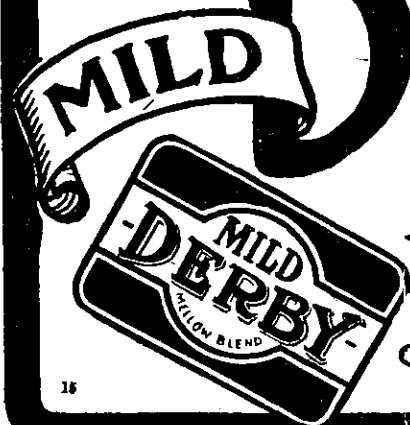
The St. Patrick's Day concert committee report that all the arrangements are in a forward state, and as it has been decided to engage the best local talent, patrons may rest assured of a good night's entertainment.

Miss Kathryn C. Daly, of Central Park West, New York, headed the Civil Service list for the position of Court Stenographer under the New York City Board of Magistrates. The position pays £400 a year.

The Happy Medium

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