

Monaghan, who is leaving the district, and who has been an officer of the branch since its inception, was presented with a large pair of handsomely framed pictures, as a small token of the esteem and respect in which he is held by the members.

### Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

Friday, May 28, was the anniversary of the ordination of the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G. (says the *North Otago Times*). The Catholic schools were en fete. In the morning, at Mass, a choir of boys of the Dominican Preparatory College gave an excellent rendering of Seymour's 'Gloria in Excelsis,' 'O Salutaris,' and various hymns. Benediction was given at mid-day, when the boys' choir again sang very sweetly and well.

In the forenoon the children of St. Joseph's School entertained the Monsignor. A varied programme was excellently rendered. In addressing the children at the conclusion, Mgr. Mackay said he was much pleased by the patriotic spirit displayed in the different items. Such a spirit was a good omen for the future of the country. The part taken by the boys in this respect especially gratified him. As to their wish for many happy years, he hoped that, during those left, the great desire of his life—the completion of his church—would be fulfilled. In this work he asked them to help by their prayers, and, as they grew older, by helpful efforts in different ways. After hearty acclamations for Monsignor the children dispersed for a much appreciated half-holiday.

In the evening the boys of the Preparatory College gave an entertainment. All the items of the programme, except two, were the boys' own achievement. A Latin play, representing a scene in ancient Rome, was cleverly done. The Latin pronunciation was clear, distinct, not to say fluent, and the acting proved that the youthful interpreters fully understood their work. A scene at the railway station was given next in fluent French, the accent of some of the boys being true Parisian. These boys are just at the age (the average is nine) when the vocal organs can be effectually formed to clear enunciation in any language. This is the training for the coming times, when a knowledge of foreign languages will be indispensable to a liberal education. 'The march of the Allies' was one of the gems of the evening, and the music, singing, and evolutions, and the grouping round the flag of New Zealand, as it was saluted by the flags of all the nations, including Ireland, were executed with a martial spirit and dash that stirred the audience. The comedietta, 'A mock trial,' was splendidly acted. Each boy was letter perfect and full of spirit. The speeches of the Crown Prosecutor, the counsel for the defence, and the witnesses were listened to with keen interest and enjoyment, whilst the twelve jurymen were models. The general laughter was controlled by the reiterated and emphatic commands of the Court Crier.

Two young ladies of the convent school of music gave respectively a beautiful rendering of 'April morn,' and Chopin's 'Scherzo in E flat.' At the conclusion an address was read, and Monsignor Mackay replied in happy terms, expressing his intense appreciation and satisfaction.

It is expected that thirty-one Japanese priests will soon be ready to take up apostolic work in the diocese of Nagasaki, thus filling the vacancies caused by death or absence of European missionaries.

### BRITISH ORDERS

The official red, not blue, pencil has been busy ruling out from the precious records of British Orders—mainly the Order of St. Michael and St. George—such names (says a writer in the *Universe*) as Admiral Baron Hermann von Spaum, Vice-Admiral Wandel, Admiral Emil Bandemann, the Khedive of Egypt, and various others, a process of blotting out which will have the effect of reducing the strength of the Order, which is one of the junior class, although it has now close on a hundred years to its credit, and is, therefore, old as compared to the Order of the Indian Empire, which came into being just sixty years later, or the Victorian Order, which has only a life of nineteen years behind it. But the Bath was instituted in 1399, and revived in 1725; St. Patrick was founded by George III. in 1783, the Thistle by James II. in 1687 (and re-established by Queen Anne in 1703), and the Garter by Edward III. in 1348. There is to be a special St. George's Day on April 23, and its national celebration is to be boomed. Which reminds me. This fair country of ours is finding by slow degrees a closer range with the things that were, and ought to be again very soon. She is accepting surely the Calendar of the Saints, as she did throughout the many centuries that heralded the storms of the sixteenth century and after—storms that eventually broke the cable which had held her to the Barque of Peter from the earliest times of the Christian era. As St. George was not a Protestant he must necessarily have been a Catholic, and as he is therefore one of ours, I venture to humbly suggest that we ourselves should do something to give him special honor on his feast day. St. Andrew, David, and Patrick make a glorious quartet with St. George, but neither Catholic nor Protestant goes out of his way to show that special distinction to the English patronal saint as the Celts do theirs.

### THE LATE MONSIGNOR O'DOWD, WARRNAMBOOL

The late Monsignor O'Dowd, of Warrnambool, Victoria, whose death was reported in our issue of May 27, was a brother of Mr. Thomas O'Dowd, St. Bathans. The burial took place on May 6 at the local cemetery, after a Solemn Requiem Mass at St. Joseph's Church. Among those present were his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, and their Lordships the Bishops of Ballarat, Sandhurst, and Auckland, and a large number of priests. The panegyric was delivered by his Lordship Bishop Higgins, who paid an eloquent tribute to the piety, zeal, and devotedness of the deceased prelate, and to the fidelity with which he attended to his priestly duties, and watched over the spiritual interests of his flock. After referring to the work which Monsignor O'Dowd did in the various missions during the past fifty years, his Lordship went on to say that it was in Port Fairy and subsequently as Vicar-General of the diocese, and Administrator of the parish of Warrnambool, that the greater part of his missionary life was spent. In Port Fairy he erected a spacious presbytery, and paid off the heavy debt incurred originally in the erection of the Koroit Church. In Warrnambool he completed the addition of a spire, built churches at Winslow and Woodford, and did a great deal for Catholic education.

The very large attendance at the funeral, the cortege being fully a mile in length, gave evidence of the high esteem in which the late Monsignor O'Dowd was held by all classes in the district. His Lordship Bishop Higgins officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

### MRS. ROLLESTON, Hair Specialist

(Qualified London and Paris)

LAMBTON QUAY : : WELLINGTON.  
HAIR TREATMENTS : ELECTROLYSIS : FACE MASSAGE.  
Telephone 1599.

CATHEDRAL SQUARE : : CHRISTCHURCH.  
MANICURING, : SHAMPOOING, : HAIRDRESSING.  
Telephone 373.

Only the best quality hair imported. Transformations, Toupees, Switches made to order on the shortest notice. Every shade and texture accurately matched. Spacious private rooms. Personal attention to all correspondence.