

estimated population of 2000, but nothing near this number had been obtained. The committee held twelve meetings during the year. The Bible-in-Schools movement occupied a good deal of time and attention of the committee, whilst the social side had not been altogether neglected. Mr. P. J. O'Regan gave a very instructive address on the subject of Proportional Representation, and the members were urged to take an interest in public affairs. The committee did not overlook the needs of our boys at the front, for a donation was made to the marquee fund of the diocesan council. During the year Messrs. R. H. Williams, R. S. Hickson, and W. F. Johnson resigned from the committee, the last-mentioned to take up the more important position of secretary to the diocesan council. The balance sheet showed that the receipts for the year ended June 30, including a sum of £26 7s 2d, brought forward, were £52 8s 2d, and the expenditure £42 8s 5d, leaving a credit balance of £9 19s 9d.

Rev. Father Hurley moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet, and in doing so voiced the appreciation of the members of committee on the excellent service rendered the committee by the Rev. Father Barra as its president. He congratulated the members on the good work accomplished. A good committee was absolutely necessary for the well being and success of the Federation. Some committees said that because the Bible-in-Schools movement had been defeated there was not much to be done. Even if this were so, the committee need not be idle, a study club could be formed with the object of interesting Catholics in the great questions of the day. If there was not much business before the meeting, discussion on these questions could take place. It was absolutely necessary for Catholics to study, and to take their part in the Government of the country, and he trusted that St. Joseph's committee would not be behindhand in commencing this work.

Mr. W. F. Johnson, who seconded the motion, said that it was pleasing for him in his capacity as diocesan secretary to inform them that St. Joseph's held the place of honor in the whole of the Wellington archdiocese in point of numbers. He could not, he said, conclude without paying a tribute to the work of the parish secretary (Mr. Cassie), who was the right man in the right place.

Mr. Burke (chairman of the Dominion Executive) supported the motion, and congratulated the committee on the success of the year's work. He urged them to get every Catholic in the parish to become a member, for it was absolutely necessary to have every Catholic not only in St. Joseph's, but every Catholic in the Dominion enrolled to ensure the success of the Federation. He urged them to study the system of proportional representation, for it was by such a system that Catholics, as a minority, had a chance of obtaining the redress of the many disabilities under which they were laboring.

The motion was then put and carried amidst much enthusiasm. The following members were elected to represent the parishioners—Messrs. W. Gamble, J. Fanning, W. Stafford, A. M. Carroll, B. Nolan, and H. J. Tustain.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

July 19.

In a short time it is hoped to have the new church building at Windsor Park well under way. Tenders are now being called for the work, and it is likely that a commencement will be made next month. The church will be in Oamaru stone, and will be quite a feature in the landscape in that part of the district.

The Celtic Football Club met and decisively defeated the Athletic team on Thursday on the Park, the final score being Celtic 14, Athletic nil. The Celts played with lots of dash and were not to be denied, and showed greatly improved form on previous matches. Fennessy scored twice, one try being converted by O'Donnell. Mansell also scored, and O'Donnell kicked a penalty goal.

MR. ALLEN DOONE'S RETURN

Our readers will be pleased to learn that the famous Irish character-actor and foremost Irish singing comedian, after an absence of over twelve months, will make his re-appearance in Wellington on Monday next, when he will open in a delightful comedy, 'Barry of Ballymore.' This picturesque comedy-drama, introduced for the first time into New Zealand, is certain to become very popular in the Dominion. Play-goers who appreciate simplicity, combined with wholesome stories of everyday life, such as they find in 'Sweet County Kerry,' 'The Wearing of the Green,' 'A Romance in Ireland,' will find Mr. Doone's new play everything that is claimed for it. 'Barry of Ballymore' is the latest and perhaps the most successful of the modern Irish poetical stories; it come to us largely earmarked with a record of productions in Australia, untouched by previous successful Irish plays.

Huntly

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

July 20.

The funeral of the youngest daughter of Mrs. Keogan (Ngaruawahia) took place last week, and much sympathy is felt for the bereaved family. Rev. Father O'Doherty officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

Mrs. Farrell, of Huntly, returned from Christchurch last Saturday, after being present at the ceremony which took place in the convent of the Sisters of the Mission, when her two daughters—Misses Mary and Cecilia Farrell—received the holy habit of that Order.

The final meeting of the disaster committee took place in the Town Board's office last Friday night, when a sum of £7000 was handed over to the Public Trustee for the benefit of the destitute among the dependents of the victims of the disaster. The committee was then dissolved.

Within the last five months two societies have been successfully established in this parish. The president of the Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, of Auckland (Mr. C. Little), visited this parish to perform the opening ceremony of St. Anthony's Conference. Yesterday another solemn ceremony took place in the church, when the sodality of the Children of Mary was formally established, and several young ladies were received as members.

COMMERCIAL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, 20th inst., as follows:—Rabbitskins.—We held our fortnightly sale yesterday and offered a full catalogue to the usual attendance of buyers. There was keen competition and new season's skins showed an advance of fully ½d per lb. Quotations: Small, 3d to 3½d; medium racks, 6½d to 7d; light racks, 5d to 6d; early autumns, 8½d to 9d; autumns, 10d to 11½d; incoming winters, 11d to 12d; early winters, 12½d to 13½d; prime winter bucks, 14d to 14½d; prime winter does, 15d to 17½d; fawns, 14d to 15d; prime winter blacks, 48d to 60½d; second winter blacks, 26d to 33½d; horsehair, 19½d to 20½d; catskins, 3d to 7d each. Sheepskins.—Competition was keen and prices for three-quarter and full-woolled skins showed an advance of ½d to 1d per lb. Short-woolled skins and pelts sold at much the same as at last sale. Quotations: Best halfbred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best coarse crossbred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best fine crossbred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best merino, 7½d to 8½d; medium, 6d to 6½d; best pelts, to 9½d; medium, 7d to 8½d; best lambskins, 10d to 11½d; medium, 8½d to 9½d per lb. Hides.—Competition keen and prices fully maintained at late rates. Oats.—Prime milling, 4s 1d to 4s 1½d; good to best feed, 4s to 4s 1d; inferior to medium, 3s 6d to 3s 11d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat.—Market quiet. Prime milling velvet, nominally, 6s 10d to 6s 11d; Tuscan, 6s 8d to 6s 9d.