

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY, WELLINGTON.

The Wellington District Council of the Hibernian Society met at the Catholic Federation Rooms on last Thursday evening (writes our own correspondent, under date June 7). Brother J. J. L. Burke (St. Patrick's branch) presided, and there were present Brothers Hoskins (district deputy), F. Whitaker, P.P., O. Krohn, P.P., representing St. Patrick's branch; Barker, B.P., Sacred Heart branch, Thorndon; J. Fagan, P.P., St. Aloysius' branch, Newtown; and Sister Griffin, St. Mary's (ladies) branch. The chairman explained that now that the war was at an end it was necessary to continue to recruit for the society, and, so far as the Wellington district was concerned, to strengthen it. For this reason (he said) the council was again called together. Brother Hoskins pointed out that three important questions should engage their attention with the object of developing the society in this Dominion. The first was the establishment of sub-districts, as outlined by Wellington at the district meeting in 1916, with representative annual meetings instead of triennial meetings as at present; the second was the increasing of the death benefit so as to bring it up to £120. At the present time the death benefit was £20, but it could be increased to £70 by any member wishing to pay a slightly increased contribution under the special insurance scheme. By making the maximum £120, the society would compare with non-Catholic societies, and remove any excuse offered by Catholics that the Hibernian Society, as a benefit society, was not giving benefits equal to the least objectionable of non-Catholic friendly societies. The third question was that of consolidation of the sick fund. Already the funeral fund was consolidated, with excellent results, and the sick fund was, to a certain extent, partly consolidated through the foundation in 1913 of the district supplementary sick fund, to which branches had to contribute 4s 4d per year for each member—1s 8d less than what was paid per annum for each member to the district funeral fund. After some discussion it was agreed to consider these three questions with a view to submitting reports at the next district meeting. Brothers Burke, Giles, and Hoskins were elected to represent the council on the Education Board.

QUEEN CARNIVAL AT GREYMOUTH.

The Town Hall was packed in all parts on Thursday evening, May 29, on the occasion of the coronation festival in connection with the recent Queen Carnival, and those present were highly delighted with the way that the pageant was presented (says the Greymouth Star). Great credit is due to Mrs. J. W. Hannan, the mistress of the revels, on whom the bulk of the work fell, and she must be congratulated on the success of her labors. It is scarcely three weeks since the "Proclamation" ordering the Coronation to proceed was issued, yet everything was ready to the "last button." The mounting and dressing were on a most elaborate scale, and when the Queen and her retinue were assembled in the Coronation Chamber the scene was a very beautiful one.

The proceedings opened with an overture by the Peerless Pictures orchestra. The main business of the evening—the Coronation of the Queen—then took place. Those participating were—Pages to queen: Gerald and Girlie Callan; maids of honor: Misses Mamie Newman, Kathleen Higgins, and Marjorie Egden; pages to maids of honor: Sheila Wingham, Margaret James, Mortimer O'Grady, Freda Colloghan, Cecil Hannan, Desmond Heaphy; master of ceremonies: Percy Dooogan; crown bearer, Stan Rogers; sceptre: Kathleen Fogarty; orb: Jack McBready. The ceremony of crowning the queen was carried out according to ancient usage and with becoming impressiveness.

Mr. W. H. Parfitt, a participant in the carnival, congratulated No. 4 Stall in having won the coveted honor for their queen, and hoped the memory of the celebrations of the evening would long linger with

Queen Maureen and her court. He knew how proud all those who had worked for the object would feel now that success had been achieved, and the preliminary work in connection with the proposed memorial school, which, besides providing the Church with a school building, was tangibly perpetuating the memory of their revered pastor and friend, the late Dean Carew. (Applause.) He thanked all who had assisted in the great undertaking, specially mentioning Father Quinn, who had done yeoman service. The revels were then continued, a large number of young people contributing to the enjoyment of the audience.

OBITUARY

MRS. MICHAEL ROCHFORD, DILLMAN'S TOWN, KUMARA.

The death, on May 30, at the Westland Hospital, is recorded of Mrs. M. Rochford, of Dillman's Town, Kumara, after a severe illness borne with Christian fortitude. Deceased was the eldest daughter of Mr. P. Purcell, Bealey Street, Hokitika. She was born in Okarito, and was 46 years of age at the time of her death. The late Mrs. Rochford was a devout Catholic, and leaves a sorrowing husband and family of nine children—two boys and seven girls—their ages ranging from eight to 26 years, one daughter being Sister M. Felix, of the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions, Nelson—also two sisters and two brothers, to all of whom deep sympathy is extended in their sad loss. The funeral was very largely attended, mourners coming from all parts to pay their last respects to the memory of the deceased. The obsequies at St. Mary's Church, and at the interment in the Hokitika Cemetery, were conducted by Father Clancy, Father Fogarty, of Kumara, being also present.—R.I.P.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

June 6.

His Lordship Bishop Cleary is still an inmate of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, but is now making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

On June 21, a mission will be opened in the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, by the Marist Missionary Fathers, and will be continued for nine days.

Father De Volder, who was the guest of Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan for the past week, left on Wednesday for Dargaville, to take charge of his new parish.

Father Skinner, who has been absent with the N.Z. Expeditionary Forces as chaplain for the past two years, is expected to return on or about the 21st instant.

The choir of St. Benedict's Church, Newton, has secured the services of Mr. Harry Hiscocks as organist, and of Mr. P. Hiscocks as conductor. Mr. Harry Hiscocks commenced duty on Sunday, June 1.

Father Carran, Adm. Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, is still in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital. At present his condition is very satisfactory, and he hopes to be able to leave the hospital in a short time.

Very Rev. Father P. Murphy, of the diocese of Dunedin, arrived here last night, en route to Ireland, and leaves here for Vancouver by the Niagara. While in Auckland he is the guest of his Lordship Dr. Cleary at the Bishop's Palace, Ponsonby.

The Rev. Dr. Kelly, Editor of the N.Z. Tablet, who has been paying a visit to this city, left by the Main Trunk express last night for Dunedin. During his stay here he was the guest of Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook at the presbytery, Grey Lynn.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday last at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and in the evening the usual procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, attended by a congregation of over 1500 people.

T. A. Bryant

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