

Another meeting in connection with the Hibernian Senior Cadet Corps was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Tuesday evening. Captain Hussey, Lieutenant Callan (officer in charge of the corps), and Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., were present. About a dozen boys were enrolled, so that the present membership stands at seventy-five.

On Monday evening a meeting was held in St. Patrick's Schoolroom, South Dunedin, for the purpose of organising a senior cadet corps in the district. Captain Hussey, Lieutenant Callan, and Rev. Fathers Coffey, Delany, and O'Neill, were present, and assisted in the enrolment. Between thirty and forty boys were enrolled, and it was decided to hold another meeting after Easter for the purpose of a further enrolment.

The following item of news from the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* of February 20 will be of interest to our readers in Otago, the Miss Sweeney referred to being an old pupil of the Dominican Nuns:— 'Not the least enjoyable feature of the very successful dinner of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, held at the Florence Restaurant, London, on Saturday evening, February 18, was the excellence of the musical programme. The organisers of the function were fortunate in securing the services of some first-rate vocalists, and their splendid rendering of favorite Irish songs was richly appreciated by the company. A number of the artistes, such as Miss Eugenie Boland and Mr. Lennon, are old favorites with London Irish audiences, while in Miss Hannah Sweeney and Mr. Gullally, two newcomers of very high promise were heard. Miss Sweeney, like Miss Boland, is an Irish-Australian, of whom much is likely to be heard in the near future. She has a rich and sympathetic voice, and her singing of 'The dear little shamrock' evoked great applause.'

The members of St. Joseph's Harriers held their official opening run from the residence of their president (the Hon. J. B. Callan, M.L.C.) on Saturday. The excellent muster of 19 turned out, under Captain James Swanson. O. Swanson and P. Anderson were in charge of the paper, and laid an ideal trail down the hill in front of the carsheds, Kaikorai Valley, right through to Wakari. From here the trail led on to a popular picnic resort (Fraser's Gully), and thence to Fraser's Creek. After a short spell here the trail was followed on through some very bushy country till Brookville road was met. From here the younger members showed great staying powers, for a steady pace was maintained till the cable power station was reached. When nearing home a sprint was arranged, afterwards resulting in a close finish for first place between L. Coughlan and Jos. Hughes, the former winning by a few yards. The members were hospitably entertained by their hosts.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

April 9.
In connection with the collection being taken up for the renovation of the premises occupied by the Marxist Brothers, I am informed that the amount collected already runs well into three figures. The object is a commendable and deserving one, and it is hoped that a substantial sum will be collected.

The annual social gathering of St. Mary's Tennis Club took place in Victoria Hall on Wednesday evening, when there was a splendid attendance. The first part of the evening was devoted to progressive euchre, the results of the tourney being as follows:—Lady's first prize, Miss C. Walker; gentleman's prize, Mr. D. McMillan. The secretarial work was ably performed by Mr. M. Timpany. As a result of this very enjoyable gathering the funds of the Tennis Club will be augmented. A word of special praise is due to Mesdames McGrath, Shepherd, Hishon, McKay, and Matheson for attending to the supper arrangements. The club intend holding a second social during the first week in July.

THE HOME RULE DELEGATES

In reference to the visit of the Irish delegates, Mr. Martin Kennedy, Wellington, sent a cable to Capetown a few days ago, to intercept the delegates there, recommending them to hold thirty-five meetings instead of twelve in New Zealand. Mr. Kennedy received the following reply:—'The more meetings the better.' Speaking to a *Times* reporter, Mr. Kennedy intimated that the reply meant that every district that wanted a meeting might have it—or that instead of twelve meetings there would be three times that number. When Messrs. Devlin and Donovan were out here a few years ago they held thirty-five meetings, and Mr. Kennedy thought that the coming delegation should have the same number.

In the course of a letter to the *Hawke's Bay Herald* Mr. John Higgins, of Napier, writes:—'We are about to have a visit from Irish delegates whose mission is to collect funds for the Home Rule Party, and it appears to me that this is an opportunity for all sympathisers with the cause to strike a decided blow for the solidarity and impregnability of our Empire. Let us respond to the invitation cordially and liberally; let us place Ireland in

the position she has so long striven for, and to which every right-thinking man must recognise she is entitled. Then disloyalty and disaffection will disappear, and the British Empire will present a front to the whole world which no nation dare attack. We, in the colonies, have Home Rule, and we are loyally devoted to the Crown and Empire. Give Ireland the same privileges, her heart and fidelity will be won, and God help the country—Germany or any other—that attacks the Motherland. With that object in view it is surely not too much to ask support for the Home Rule delegates, to invite sympathy for a movement which, when successful, will unite in the closest bonds every branch and section of our great Empire.'

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

April 10.

Rev. Father Hunt, C.S.S.R., gave a mission during the past week to the inmates of the Mount Eden Gaol.

His Lordship the Bishop continues his pastoral visitation of the diocese, and hopes to visit as many districts as possible before winter sets in.

Rev. Father Furlong, who starts on his homeward journey next Wednesday, will be absent twelve months. To-night a presentation of a purse of sovereigns will be made him at Devonport.

Arrangements are in progress for the meetings of the Irish delegates in the city and province. Already country places, where intended meetings are to be held, have been communicated with, and no doubt the best results will be achieved.

Visitors from the various branches of the Newman Society in the Dominion are to arrive this week to attend the conference. A dinner will be given them on next Sunday at the Mon Desir Hotel, Takapuna. The local members will leave nothing undone to make the visit of the delegates a pleasant one.

Mr. Fred Moore, who had been hon. treasurer to each succeeding Irish delegation to Auckland, leaves with his wife on a business visit to Ireland this week. To-morrow evening a presentation from the Auckland Irishmen will be made to him in recognition of his great services. He is a sturdy Protestant Nationalist, who puts Ireland in the forefront on all occasions. He is well acquainted with the Irish leaders, and his knowledge of Ireland's history is thorough.

The Coronation bazaar, in aid of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, will be opened next Saturday afternoon by his Worship the Mayor. Great preparations have been made for the fair by a large band of workers. A varied programme will be given each night; two bands will take part, and a number of young ladies will give exhibitions of fancy drill and dancing. The side-shows will be numerous and entertaining, and the stalls will be laden with a splendid stock of artistic and useful goods, whilst the prizes in the art union are valuable and numerous.

New Plymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

Mr. James Sexton, of Stratford, at the invitation of the local St. Vincent de Paul Society, delivered a lecture, 'A trip round the world,' in St. Joseph's Hall, New Plymouth, on March 30. All the views shown had been taken by the lecturer, who also made his own slides. The proceeds were in aid of the funds of the society. The lecture was highly successful, and a few days later Mr. Sexton received a letter from the secretary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, conveying the thanks of the Conference for the entertainment provided by him.

The steady growth of Timaru is indicated by the fact that 65 applications for water services were dealt with during the last two months. Forty-two building permits were issued, the total estimated cost of the buildings being £16,558. In a comprehensive review of the financial position of the borough, the Mayor on Monday night submitted figures to show that the contemplated further loans, amounting to £50,000, can be added to the present loan debt of £170,000 without increasing the rates. The purposes of the new loans are drainage and roading the recently annexed area, and erecting municipal buildings. When these are erected the present offices will be given up to the Fire Brigade. The existing loan debt includes the cost of improving the water storage from five to 20 million gallons. This work is now in hand. During the past year £1568 was spent on recreation grounds. The Public Library has about 1400 regular borrowers. The premises are already too small, and application has been made to Mr. Carnegie for assistance to enlarge them. The underground drainage work is making good progress. There are 1198 premises connected with the completed sections of it. The council allows up to £10 in each case, and these payments will absorb £241,000. In the old borough the next leading work which the new council must consider is the provision of trams, and the Mayor thought a good system could be had for £50,000.

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