

Would you care to say anything about the attitude of the Nationalists in regard to the Coronation? We have had cablegrams about it.

'We are not taking part in any ceremony. We are holding aloof, as we have always done in the past from any ceremony of the kind, and as we always shall do until we get Home Rule. When the King visits Ireland he is assured of a most hospitable and hearty welcome, but there will not be any official welcome. This is a matter of principle, and the principle will never be departed from. It is not a matter of any sentiment against the King, nor against the English people; it is simply a protest against the Constitution as it stands at present.'

Mr. Donovan mentioned that when he toured Australasia in 1906 with Mr. Joseph Devlin, they collected £23,000 for the Nationalist cause, including £5000 from New Zealand.

To-night the delegates are being entertained at dinner by Mr. Martin Kennedy, and to-morrow they will be formally received by the Mayor, and will lunch with his Grace Archbishop Redwood. To-morrow night they will be the guests of Dr. Cahill at dinner at the Wellington Club. On Wednesday they will lunch with the rector of St. Patrick's College (the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy) and the faculty, and at night they will address a public meeting at the Town Hall.

The Mayoral reception to-morrow will not be a public function. Only the delegates and members of the local committee will attend it in the Mayor's room. Subsequently the delegates will call upon the acting-Prime Minister (the Hon. Jas. Carroll).

Mr. Martin Kennedy has received a telegram from Auckland stating that at a preliminary meeting there £420 had been subscribed. A telegram from Hokitika states that an enthusiastic meeting was held there, and it was decided to invite the delegates to address a public meeting. In the larger centres it is probable that all three delegates will address meetings, but in connection with the meetings at the smaller towns, the delegates will separate. Mr. Hazleton taking one series of meetings and Messrs. Redmond and Donovan the other series.

THE ENVOYS.

The *Belfast Irish Weekly*, writing of the departure of the Irish Envoys to New Zealand, gives the following personal particulars of Messrs. Hazleton, Redmond, and Donovan:—

Mr. Richard Hazleton, M.P., is a native of Dublin, where his father has been for many years a prominent commercial man. He is just over 30 years, having been born in 1880. He was educated in the famous College of Blackrock, and began to take an active interest in public affairs at a very early age, for he had barely attained his majority when he was elected member of the Blackrock District Council and the Rathdowne Board of Guardians. Even previous to this he had taken an active part in National affairs, and he was one of the speakers at the first United Irish League Convention, which was held in Dublin in the year 1900. He took a keen interest in municipal reform and also in the Gaelic League movement. In 1906 he contested South Dublin against Mr. Walter Long, and made a gallant fight against a certain amount of Nationalist apathy and a register 'stuffed' with Tory 'lodgers.' The sudden death of Mr. Thomas Higgins on the night of his election for North Galway created a vacancy in that division in 1906, and Mr. Hazleton was immediately returned unopposed. His battle against Mr. Healy in North Louth in January, 1910, when he was defeated by only 99 votes, and his subsequent victory over Mr. Healy in December of last year, which was followed by an election petition, will be fresh in the public memory. Mr. Hazleton is one of the 'promising' young men of the Party, and this 'promise' is based upon considerable actual achievement. He is a fluent speaker, and an able writer on many subjects. It will be remembered that he arrived home from a voyage to the Argentine on the eve of his election for North Louth in December last.

Mr. William Archer Redmond, who won East Tyrone last December by a majority of 140 after a vigorous battle, is the son of the Irish Leader. He comes of a race of patriots. Redmonds were hanged for their part in the struggle of 1798. His grandfather, who bore the same name, sat as member for Wexford County from 1872 until his death in 1880, while his uncle, Mr. William K. Redmond, has been for nearly 30 years one of the ablest, most active, and most popular members of the Nationalist Party. The Member for East Tyrone has just passed his twenty-fifth birthday, and he was called to the Irish Bar last year. His first public speeches were delivered in Belfast in support of Mr. Joseph Devlin during the West Belfast contest of January, 1910. In the interval between that and December he had taken so active a part in the National struggle that the East Tyrone Executive, under the guidance of Mr. W. J. Harbison, unanimously selected him as the Nationalist standard-bearer when Mr. T. M. Kettle's professional duties necessitated his resignation in December. Young Mr. Redmond threw himself wholeheartedly into the contest, and his return was regarded as one of the great victories of the General Election. His maiden speech in the House of Commons was the subject of sincere congratulations from all sides.

Mr. John T. Donovan is an Ulsterman born, but, as his patronymic indicates, he comes of an old Cork family. The name has been a prominent one in Southern affairs for very many centuries. Mr. Donovan has been throughout the course of his political life actively identified with Nationalist politics in Belfast city. He served a legal apprenticeship with Mr. Thomas Maguire, solicitor, Lombard street; and in this city practised successfully since his name was added to the roll of solicitors some years ago. Just five years back he was selected by Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Party as Mr. Devlin's colleague on the exceedingly successful mission to Australia and New Zealand, which was conducted by the Member for West Belfast and his friend and comrade during the year 1906 and part of 1907. This mission resulted in the consolidation of Australia and New Zealand sentiment in favor of Home Rule and in the addition of £23,000 to the National exchequer. Mr. Donovan will, therefore, be in a position to act as 'guide, philosopher, and friend' to his colleagues during the progress of the present 'expedition,' as he has travelled over all the ground previously, and has friends in every city and town and most of the villages throughout Australia and New Zealand. He is a member of the Standing Committee of the National Directory, and a general favorite in Belfast and Ulster Nationalist circles.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT AUCKLAND.

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

May 1.

A large and enthusiastic meeting to welcome and assist the Irish Envoys on their visit to Auckland was held this evening in the Marist Brothers' School, Pitt street, Bishop Cleary and the following clergy were present: Rev. Fathers Golden, Holbrook, Patterson, and Tormey. The meeting was representative of all classes and creeds. The following resolutions were carried:—Proposed by Mr. W. J. Napier:—'This meeting extends a cordial welcome to the Irish Envoys—Mr. Richard Hazleton, M.P. for North Galway; Mr. William Archer Redmond, M.P. for East Tyrone, and Mr. John T. Donovan, B.L.,—and trusts that their mission to Australasia may prove eminently successful.'

Proposed by Mr. J. J. Sullivan, seconded by Councillor P. M. Mackay:—'This representative meeting of Auckland citizens affirms the principle of full Self-Government for Ireland, under which our Dominion as an integral part of the Empire has flourished, and pledges itself to assist in every effort made by the Irish Parliamentary party, under the leadership of Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., to procure this inestimable boon for Ireland.'

Proposed by Mr. Hall Skelton, seconded by Mr. Thomas Long:—'That a collection in aid of the Irish Parliamentary fund be forthwith taken up, and shall be continued until the public meeting in His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, June 2; that lists be distributed to those who are willing to assist in the collection.'

The collection taken up in the room resulted in £420 being subscribed. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed as various speakers made their points. Cheers were given with greatest vigor. No meeting held here evoked such whole-hearted responses.

WAIHI.

(From our own correspondent.)

April 24.

An enthusiastic meeting of Home Rule supporters was held in St. Joseph's Schoolroom on April 23, Very Rev. Father Brodie presiding. The question of inviting the Irish delegates to Waihi was carefully considered, and it was decided to write to the secretary of the Auckland committee, stating that owing to the present depressed state of the town that the amount raised could not be expected to reach that of Mr. Devlin's meeting some years ago, but that the people would do their best to ensure a successful meeting. A committee was formed, of which Mr. McLean was appointed chairman, and Mr. Collins secretary. Another public meeting is called for next Sunday to which representatives from Paeroa and Karangahake will be invited.

GISBORNE.

May 1.

At a meeting called for the purpose of arranging a reception of the Irish delegates, £82 was collected in the room.

The Coronation Carnival, in aid of the Dominican Convent school building fund, Bluff, will open on May 10, and close on May 15. There will be attractive entertainments each evening, and the late train for Invercargill will stop at the Ocean Beach and Clyde street stations. Those having books of tickets in connection with the carnival are requested to return blocks without delay....