

the Crown and the colonies. The Imperial Parliament would also retain an overriding and supreme authority over the new Irish Legislature, such as it possesses to-day over the colonial Parliaments.

Control of Police.

'You mention the police. Would you propose that the Royal Irish Constabulary should be continued in its present form?'

'I should say certainly not; but you will understand that all members of the force have the right to a pension, and that a complete alteration of the character of the force, which is semi-military, could not be effected at once. This is a matter presenting some difficulties. But they are difficulties which I hold to be essentially of a temporary character. The police force which Ireland should control would be in character such a police as you have here in England. It should be about a third of the present force in number and entail about a third of the present cost. As to financial questions, I prefer at this stage to make no statement beyond this: The suggestion that a financial settlement just to both countries is a really serious difficulty in one way is, in my opinion, totally untrue. On the contrary, I am convinced that it will be found when the matter is investigated that the argument founded on finance is the strongest of all in favor of Home Rule, and from the British standpoint quite as much as from the Irish.'

'You mention the overriding authority which the Imperial Parliament would retain. Would that affect the fears that Protestants will never receive just treatment from a Nationalist Parliament?'

'As to Protestants receiving fair play, the entire history of Ireland indicates that they will. But beyond that I would gladly accept any safeguards which were consistent with ordinary democratic principles. As to the apprehensions which one hears expressed in these matters, I honestly believe that twelve months' experience of Home Rule will lay such bogeys for ever. There is no reality behind them—they are merely stage properties which may terrify ignorant people, just as a hollow turnip with a candle in it terrifies a child. While the question is open it pays politicians to exploit these terrors; but there is a very wise saying in a little pamphlet written by an old colleague of mine, the late Alfred Webb, a Quaker, one of the sincerest Nationalists and best men that I ever knew. Let me quote it to you:—

"So long as the centre of power lies in a people, parties and interests learn to accommodate themselves to each other. Otherwise they seek to gain their ends not by mutual agreement and accommodation, but by working on the feelings, the fears, and the prejudices of those among whom is the centre of power."

'That second sentence describes exactly what is going on in Great Britain and Ireland to-day. The first sentence prophesies accurately what will come to pass when the centre of power in Irish matters lies in the Irish people themselves.'

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

May 20.

A number of children of the Thorndon parish will make their First Communion on Pentecost Sunday.

The ladies' branch of the Hibernian Society are organising their annual social, which is to take place at St. Peter's Schoolroom on Wednesday, June 24.

The Catholic Club commenced their monthly winter euchre parties at St. Patrick's Hall on last Wednesday. There was a good attendance and an enjoyable evening was spent.

The Irish Envoys arrive here to-morrow, and will be the guests of Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G. Messrs. Redmond and Donovan will lecture in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on 'Grattan's Parliament.' On Wednesday they leave for Christchurch.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Paul Verschaffelt, of Thorndon parish, who has received news of the death of his father, Mr. Desiré Verschaffelt, who was accidentally killed in Paris on May 11.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood proceeded during the past week to Wairoa to bless the new convent erected for the Sisters of St. Joseph. Latest advices from Wairoa state that his Grace and the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, who accompanied him, are, through stress of weather, bar-bound.

Last Sunday night at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, the monthly meeting of the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart was well attended. The Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., addressed the members, taking for his subject 'The State of Religion in Portugal.'

It is with regret I have to record the death of one of Thorndon's oldest parishioners in the person of Mrs. Maginnity of Karori, which occurred on the 7th inst. The funeral took place on the 9th at Karori, the Rev. Father Peoples, S.M., officiating.—R.I.P.

On Saturday afternoon a very enjoyable tea was given by Mrs. Keefe at the Kelburne Kiosk, her guests being those who had so willingly and untiringly given their assistance with the stalls at the recent King's Festival, held in the Town Hall. Before they parted, Miss O'Sullivan, on behalf of those present, asked Mrs. Keefe's acceptance of a very handsome hand-bag and cut-glass scent bottle.

In conjunction with the official visitor (Mrs. Schoch), the members of the Catholic Club Dramatic Society entertained the inmates of the Porirua Mental Hospital on Tuesday evening with a concert and dramatic performance. The entertainment was highly appreciated by the patients and staff. Dr. Jeffries thanked the entertainers, and expressed a wish they would come again.

His Lordship Bishop Clune, so well known to New Zealanders, has already commenced to inaugurate the Catholic Society movement in his diocese. His Lordship has sent an invitation to the Hon. L. F. Heydon, M.L.C., President of the Superior Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Australasia, to visit Western Australia this month to found twelve conferences of the society.

One of the works of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in this city that is doing an immense amount of good in a quiet way is the distribution of Catholic literature. Each church in the city is equipped with a book-case, and it is surprising the quantity of literature that is circulated in this way. The demand for literature is also keen at many of the country conferences.

Mr. G. D. Cronin, well known in Catholic musical circles at Christchurch and Te Aro, was killed last Saturday on the railway line between Mellings and Lower Hutt. Of late years Mr. Cronin has resided in Petone. Prior to taking up his residence there Mr. Cronin was a popular member of St. Joseph's choir, and much sympathy is felt for his bereaved relatives.—R.I.P.

The Wellington Hibernians met last Thursday evening for the purpose of considering the question of giving the Irish Envoys—Messrs. Donovan, Hazleton, and Redmond—a fitting send off on the eve of their departure from the Dominion. In the unavoidable absence of the District Deputy (Bro. J. W. Callaghan, P.P.), Bro. W. J. Feeney was voted to the chair. The Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., Adm., and representatives from Thorndon, Newtown, Hutt, Petone, and Wellington, and ladies' branches were present. It was decided to tender a banquet in the concert chamber of the Town Hall, and various committees for carrying out of the necessary arrangements were set up.

The mission conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers for the past three weeks at St. Anne's was concluded on last Sunday. Hundreds received Holy Communion at the 6.30, 7.30, and 9 o'clock Masses. The Rev. Father Whelan, C.S.S.R., preached to a large congregation at the 10.30 o'clock Mass, and in the evening the Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., preached to a crowded congregation. He congratulated them on the success of the mission, and exhorted them to persevere in the good practices commenced in the mission. At the conclusion of his sermon the Rev. Father Creagh imparted the Papal blessing. The 6 o'clock Mass on the following Monday was also well attended, and was offered up for the departed relatives of the parishioners. On Monday evening the Rev. Father Creagh commenced a mission at St. Patrick's, Kilbirnie, and the Rev. Father Whelan opened one at St. Francis' Church, Island Bay. Both missions are being well attended, and will conclude to-morrow.

Wairoa

(From an occasional correspondent.)

May 16

On Sunday, May 14, his Grace the Archbishop of Wellington made a pastoral visitation of Wairoa. His Grace was accompanied by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), and the Rev. Father McDonnell, S.M. (Napier). Addresses of welcome from the parishioners was read by Mr. Duggan. A Missa Cantata was celebrated by Very Rev. Dean Regnault. The music was the Mass of St. Cecilia, which was excellently rendered by the choir. Immediately after Mass his Grace administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a number of children. In the afternoon his Grace blessed and opened the new convent and school. The school has been a success from the start, there being 77 pupils on the roll. As the result of an appeal a sum of £70 was subscribed at the ceremony. In the evening his Grace gave an interesting and instructive account of the great Eucharistic Congress in Montreal. At half-past twelve on Sunday a luncheon was given in honor of his Grace. There were present Dean Regnault, Rev. Fathers McDonnell and Le Pretre, Messrs. Jos. Corkill (Mayor), Jos. Powdrell (Chairman County Council), J. J. Hunter Brown, F. L. Matthews, F. Taylor, F. J. Foot, J. J. Parker, John Duggan, A. D. Lynch, A. Allen, and other.

Aramoho

(From our own correspondent.)

May 19.

A new conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society has been opened here. The members take an active interest in all matters connected with our beautiful little church. They formed a working bee to put the church grounds in