

MARRIAGES

CONNOLLY—O'SULLIVAN.—On July 5, 1911, at St. Patrick's Church, Waimate, by Rev. Father Aubry, P.P., Martin James, third son of Mr. Martin Connolly, Georgetown, Temuka, to Genevieve Mary, second daughter of Mrs. O'Sullivan, 82 Aro street, Wellington.

WALLACE—REIDY.—At the Catholic Church, Invercargill, on June 28, 1911, by the Rev. Father Keenan, assisted by the Rev. Father Kavanagh, William Wallace, Riversdale, to Catherine Reidy, Invercargill.

DEATHS

AMBROSE.—On July 23, 1911, at Dunedin, Edward Joseph, eldest son of Thomas and Mary Ambrose; aged 28 years. Deeply regretted.—R.I.P.

BYRNES.—At Waimate, on July 9, 1911, John, third dearly beloved son of Peter and Ellen Byrnes, Morven; aged 2 years and 8 months.

KREFT.—On July 31, 1911, at her late residence, Moore street, Milton, Rosalia, relict of the late John Kreft, of Akatore; aged 63 years.—R.I.P.

O'REILLEY.—At Waverley, on June 29, 1911, Gerald O'Reilley; aged 73 years.—R.I.P.

RIORDAN.—Of your charity pray for the soul of Patrick Riordan, who died at Charing Cross, July 18, 1911.—R.I.P.

JOE CASEY (late Princes street) wishes it known that he is in the employ of R. Bentham, Mercer, George street, and would be pleased to see old friends and show them all the newest goods for men's wear. £6000 stock to choose from. Suits made to measure. Patterns and self-measuring chart sent on application to any address.
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[A CARD.]

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THE LATEST 'TABLET' PUBLICATION

'Secular versus Religious Education: A Discussion.' Edited (and, as to its greatest part, written) by Rev. H. W. Cleary, D.D. 212 pages, stiff paper wrapper. Price 1/-, posted 1s 3d. Cardinal Moran writes of it: 'I have received the brilliant pamphlet, *Secular versus Religious Education*. It is a most useful and instructive contribution to the educational controversy, and cannot fail to do a deal of good.'

Apply **MANAGER, TABLET, Dunedin.**

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH.** Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office **BY TUESDAY MORNING.** Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

ADDRESS matter intended for publication 'Editor, TABLET Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly, **ESPECIALLY NAMES** of persons and places. Reports of **MARRIAGES** and **DEATHS** are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this Office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d is made.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1911.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION



HE parliamentary session was opened last Thursday; and this being the third session of the present Parliament its expiry will be followed by a general election. If the somewhat unexpected results of our experiment with the Second Ballot at the last elections are repeated in the coming contests, it is certain that the Second Ballot Act will go, and that an important and far-reaching amendment of the electoral law will be brought down. The Second Ballot Act is all right in theory, and on paper; but it makes no allowance for the infirmity of human nature. Theoretically, when there are two Government candidates and one Opposition candidate at an election, and a second ballot has to be taken between the leading Government candidate and the Opposition candidate, it is assumed that the supporters of the Government candidate who has been eliminated will throw in their lot with the surviving Government candidate, and make his return certain. Practically, that is precisely what does not happen. Out of sheer annoyance and chagrin, the supporters of the disappointed Government man promptly transfer their votes to the Opposition candidate, and secure his return. That is what happened, notoriously, at Tuapeka, at Dunedin North, and at Wellington North at the last election. That is not only contrary to the principles of true democracy; but—what is a still more serious matter—it is very annoying to the Government; hence the likelihood that, sooner or later, our electoral laws will undergo very radical amendment.

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Both in England, and in many of the overseas dominions, the eyes of political reformers are directed very hopefully to the experiments that have been made in what is known as proportional representation; and when our New Zealand electoral laws come up for reconsideration it is certain that an effort will be made to secure—in some degree—the introduction of this principle. There are two principal methods of giving effect to Proportional Representation—the List system, in force in Belgium and one or two other Continental countries; and what is known as the Single Transferable Vote system. This latter is the only system that has been—or is likely to be—adopted in any English-speaking country; and it is the only one which at present we propose to trouble our readers with. The first step in adopting this system is to unite existing constituencies into larger ones returning three or more members each, and having regard to natural divisions of the country—each constituency so formed being given a number of members proportionate to its electorate. Probably the simplest way of explaining the operation of the system will be to give a specimen ballot paper, as used in a model election held recently in Dublin. The directions—both to the elector and to the Returning