

**Invercargill**

(From our own correspondent.)

The following report of the annual meeting of the Irish Athletic Society of Southland, which is taken from the *Southland Times*, will be of interest to many subscribers:—The annual general meeting of members of the Irish Athletic Society of Southland was held in Rae-side's rooms and was attended by 30 subscribers, Mr. J. Mulvey presiding.

The annual report and balance-sheet, as already published, were adopted.

In moving the adoption of the above, the chairman said he had much pleasure in congratulating members on the result of the past season's operations. Considering the adverse circumstances under which the fixture had been held, heavy rain falling throughout, members were agreeably surprised to find that a profit of £51 3s 2d had resulted. The society commenced the season with a credit balance of £27 5s 6d, and this had now been increased to £78 8s 8d. He was pleased to point out that the receipts from membership tickets had shown a very decided increase, as £34 5s had resulted from this source, as against £16 10s during the previous season—this had to be credited to the endeavours of Mr. R. Waterston, in particular, and several other gentlemen in conjunction. In concluding Mr. Mulvey welcomed to the meeting Judge Gilfedder, who had acted as president for many years at a time when the society experienced many ups and downs, and spoke of the help the society had received at the last sports gathering from several directors of the Southland Caledonian Society.—The motion was seconded by Mr. McGoldrick.

Judge Gilfedder congratulated the meeting on the success of the Society during recent seasons and brought down the house by detailing in a humorous manner some of the trials and tribulations of its earliest years. Regarding the management of sports gatherings, he pointed out that his travels in other parts of the colony had impressed upon him the fact that the I.A.S. had nothing to learn in this respect from its contemporaries.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—Patron, Sir J. G. Ward (re-elected); president, Mr. J. Mulvey (re-elected); vice-presidents—Messrs. J. Collins, Thomas McGrath (re-elected), and Judge Gilfedder; directors—T. Traynor, N. Grace, J. Ward, J. O'Brien, T. Cavanagh, J. McNamara, W. Hishon, P. J. Scully, J. Shepherd, T. McGrath, H. Walker, A. H. Fitzgerald, W. L. McGoldrick, C. Matheson, J. Collins, H. S. Searle, M. Brogan, F. Morton, R. S. Waterston, J. Collins, T. Pound, B. E. Murphy, R. J. Timpany, jun., H. Grace, B. Lynch; hon. secretary, Mr. B. E. Murphy (re-elected); hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Mulvey (re-elected); referee, Mr. J. Collins; superintendent, Mr. C. Matheson; deputy-superintendents, Messrs. Thomas McGrath, A. H. Fitzgerald, R. S. Waterston; handicappers, Messrs. J. Bell (running and jumping), G. Double (cycling), Messrs. J. Brey and James Tobin (stone and hammer), R. Wilson, Winton (quoits); judges—Messrs. Brey and Tobin (stone and hammer), H. Geddes (Highland dancing), Thomas McGrath and J. Kirwan (Irish dancing), R. Wilson (quoits); T. Reidy, J. Deegan (jumping); starter, 75 yards and Sheffield, Mr. B. Bain; other events, Mr. A. McGavock; timekeepers, Messrs. T. Roche, T. Rankin, and Arthur; auditors, Messrs. C. Matheson and F. Morton; programme committee, Messrs. Pound, McNamara, Morton, Matheson, J. Mulvey and Murphy; clerk of scales, Mr. J. McNamara.

A number of trophies were offered and accepted with thanks: Mr. Thomas Reidy (Five Rivers Estate) a gold medal for man putting up the best performance in the high jump event; Mr. H. Walker, gold medal, awarded to Irish jig.

It was decided to hold the annual sports on Wednesday, March 20.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

On Sunday afternoon the Hibernian Band, attracted a very large crowd to their promenade concert in the No. 2 Gardens. A very enjoyable programme of

music was rendered, and a substantial collection was made in aid of the contest fund.

On Friday, the 15th inst., the members of the local branch of the Hibernian Society entertained their lady friends at a social evening. The early part of the evening was devoted to a euchre tournament, after which an excellent musical programme was proceeded with. At the supper interval, Bro. J. Scully (president) made a suitable speech and urged the ladies to do their share in advancing the membership of the society. During the next winter season it is intended to hold several such gatherings.

**CATHOLIC CLUBS****MARIST OLD BOYS AND CATHOLIC CLUB, WELLINGTON.**

Members of the Wellington Catholic Club and the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association foregathered in the old school premises in Boulcott street, on Wednesday evening, December 13, and spent a very pleasant hour or two in renewing old associations. Mr. J. McGowan (president of the club) occupied the chair, and among those present were the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), Rev. Father Venning, S.M., and Brother Justin, head of the Marist Brothers' teaching staff in Wellington. Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from his Grace Archbishop Redwood, Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., Adm., Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G., and others.

The toast of 'Our Alma Mater' was proposed by Mr. C. Gamble who paid a high tribute to the work done by the Brothers in the years that the Old Boys remember with gratitude and appreciate fully in the present. More particularly he referred to 'the grand old man of Catholic education,' Brother Mark, mention of whose name evoked an outburst of cheers.

In replying Brother Justin, who met with a cordial reception, said it gave the Brothers pleasure to watch the careers of the boys after leaving school, and looking round Wellington, he said that the school had done its share in providing good citizens for Wellington. During the past year the Brothers had ceased teaching in Boulcott street, and started work in Tasman street, where the numbers had been quite up to expectations, although over seventy boys had been left behind at Thorndon. At the recent examinations thirty boys had been presented from the Sixth Standard and twenty-seven had gained their proficiency certificates. The school had also done well in the field of sport—in cricket, for instance, eight matches had been played and eight had been won. On behalf of the teaching staff, he expressed the highest appreciation of the kindly feelings shown by Old Boys to their Alma Mater.

The toast of 'Catholic Education' was proposed by Mr. S. J. Moran, who remarked that the record of the past in this respect incited them on to further efforts. They knew that the Catholics had to support the State schools, to which they did not go, and they had also to support a greater burden, the schools to which they did go.

Very Rev. Dean Regnault, in replying, said it seemed to him that Catholic people were the only ones who appreciated education sufficiently to put their hands in their pockets and to pay for it. They had often been told that the Catholics were the friends of ignorance and the enemies of enlightenment and education, and yet they day by day paid for their education and made sacrifices for it. The other toasts honored were 'The Pope and the King,' proposed by the chairman; 'Wellington Catholic Club,' proposed by Mr. B. Guise, and responded to by Mr. Thomas; 'Kindred Societies,' proposed by Mr. H. McKeown; responded to by Rev. Father Venning (St. Vincent de Paul Society), Mr. J. W. Callaghan (Hibernian Society), and Mr. E. B. L. Reade (Newtown Catholic Club). Musical items were contributed by Messrs. E. B. L. Reade, W. B. Keany, C. McErlean, M. O'Kane, W. Hueston, F. Eller, C. Gamble, and P. J. McGovern. Mr. E. Reade presided at the piano.