

an experience of the disadvantages to a successful conference (particularly in regard to direct representation) arising from a movable conference. The amendment (providing for a movable conference) was carried. The decision on the locale of the next conference was in favor of Auckland.

A motion by the Wellington Club (Mr. Dee), proposing the institution of a challenge shield for inter-club debating contests, was lost by a large majority, the general opinion being that the shield competitions inaugurated at this conference should be first allowed an opportunity of developing.

The chairman, at this stage, reported having received telegrams conveying greetings and best wishes to the conference from Rev. Brother Phelan, and Messrs. H. McKeowen, J. Leydon, and W. Tiller. At the suggestion of the chairman, it was unanimously decided to telegraph the fraternal greeting and best wishes of the conference to a conference of the clubs in the Goldfields district, which was being held at Thames.

Mr. Casey then submitted the report of the Executive upon the proposal for the re-publication of an official organ to be called *The Catholic Magazine*. The proposal, though a commendable one, was not, in the opinion of the Executive, likely, owing to various reasons enumerated, to be a successful venture financially. The motion for the approval of the Executive's report was vigorously opposed by Mr. O'Kane, who criticised severely the business management of the old *Magazine*, and the estimates of probable receipts and expenditure submitted in the present report. He moved as an amendment—that the incoming Executive be deputed to again consider the matter of re-publishing the *Magazine*, and that it be empowered to proceed with the republication if satisfactory arrangements ensuring its financial and literary success can be made. Messrs. Carmine, Dobbs, and McNamara supported the amendment. Mr. Casey, in reply, defended the late business manager (Mr. McKeowen), who, he said, had worked hard, without remuneration, and had done his best for the financial side of the venture. He thanked the various speakers who had spoken in appreciative terms of his (Mr. Casey's) services as editor, but his opinion was that the clubs would need to be more practical than in the past in supporting not only the financial but also the literary side of the *Magazine* if the proposed publication was to be successful. The amendment was carried.

Reports were received from the Greymouth, Wellington South, Wellington, Thames, Waihi, Newton, Ashburton, Timaru, and Christchurch Clubs, all of which showed that the various phases of Catholic club life had, in general, been satisfactorily provided for and been taken advantage of by the members.

The chairman explained the objects and constitution of the New Zealand Catholic Federation, and the advantages of the Federation in relation to Catholic clubs, and he urged all club members to join the organisation and assist actively in its promotion.

The importance of every club availing itself fully of the advantages kindly offered by the *N.Z. Tablet* for the publication of club notes and reports was stressed by the chairman, who moved—That this conference heartily congratulates the *N.Z. Tablet* upon its continued and successful defence of Catholic doctrine and Catholic interests, and expresses its warm appreciation of the facilities offered for the publication of Catholic club news, of which facilities the federation and individual clubs hope to take fuller advantage in the future. The motion was carried with but one dissentient (Mr. O'Kane).

The conference also passed a vote of thanks to the secular press of New Zealand generally for the prominence given in its columns to reports of Catholic club matters, and each club was directed to convey such resolution of thanks to the local press in their respective districts.

Messrs. J. Sullivan and C. J. Lenihan (of the Wellington and Wellington South Clubs respectively) contributed papers on matters of Catholic interest and Catholic club work. A resolution of thanks to the writers was carried after some criticism by Mr. Cal-

laghan on the nature of the subject matter of one paper.

Various suggestions for the improvement of the federation and of its constituent clubs were made, such as—Uniform report forms; report from each club's spiritual director; compilation by the Executive, in collaboration with the clubs, of lists of members; inter-club visits and competitions; exchange of matter for debating, literary, and dramatic work; lectures and speeches on Catholic doctrine; the furnishing of letters of introduction and financial 'clearance' to members departing to another club town; freer correspondence by clubs with the Executive upon matters pertaining to club life upon which advice or information is needed, and better and more prompt attention (on the part both of clubs and the Executive) to correspondence.

The election of officers was next proceeded with. The joint committee (consisting of five members of the two Wellington clubs) recommended the following gentlemen for election:—President-general, his Grace Archbishop Redwood; president, Mr. B. A. Guise; vice-president, Mr. M. O'Kane; hon. secretary, Mr. C. J. Lenihan; hon. treasurer, Mr. C. A. Carmine; Executive members, Messrs. G. Dee, J. L. Leydon, and J. Fagan. Messrs. Guise and Dee withdrew their respective nominations, and the nominations closed as follow for the contested positions:—President, Messrs. A. H. Casey, H. McKeowen, and M. O'Kane; vice-president, Messrs. M. O'Kane, B. A. Guise, J. McGowan, and H. McKeowen; Executive members, Messrs. H. McKeowen, J. McGowan, B. A. Guise, J. L. Leydon, and J. Fagan. The elections, which created great interest, resulted in the following constitution of the Executive for the forthcoming year:—President-general, his Grace Archbishop Redwood; president, Mr. A. H. Casey; vice-president, Mr. M. O'Kane; hon. secretary, Mr. C. J. Lenihan; hon. treasurer, Mr. C. A. Carmine; Executive members, Messrs. J. L. Leydon, J. McGowan, and B. A. Guise.

The following further resolutions were carried:—That this conference tenders its congratulations to the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary, Bishop of Auckland, upon his able and sustained efforts in opposing the introduction of the Bible into State schools. That this conference is of opinion that the parents of any Catholic child who, after winning (from a Catholic primary school) a scholarship entitling such child to free tuition at a State secondary school or 'its equivalent, is nevertheless debarred by the District Education Board from holding such scholarship at a Catholic secondary school of proper grade, should, if they prefer, for conscientious reasons, that their child's education be continued at such a Catholic secondary school, be compensated to the value of such forfeited scholarship out of a fund to be established and maintained by the Catholic body of New Zealand. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Zealand Catholic Federation.

A hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers was carried by acclamation, as was also a resolution that the Executive confer a diploma for distinguished service upon Messrs. H. McKeowen and J. L. Leydon for their past zealous work and efforts as officers of the federation.

The desirability of mutual co-operation in extending the membership and participating in the work of St. Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Seamen's Conference, H.A.C.B. Society, and boys' clubs was urged by the chairman, who gave a brief outline of the work and sphere of usefulness of each such society.

The conference passed a vote of condolence and sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. W. Sullivan, of Waihi, who took a prominent part in the deliberations of last year's conference, and showed great zeal in the work of the federation.

It was also unanimously resolved to tender the congratulations of the conference to the Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie, of Waihi, and to his parishioners, upon his and their effective protest against the extravagant and discourteous utterances against them and the Church generally of a notorious Socialist during the troublous times of last year in Waihi.

This being all the business, the assembled dele-