

ITEMS OF SPORT

GENERAL.

It is rumored (says a contemporary) that no application will be made for official endorsement of the great half-mile run of 1min 56 1-5sec by Dormer at Auckland on St. Patrick's Day, as the conditions governing records were not complied with. It is stated that just previous to the event in which these figures were hoisted the sports ground was being prepared for some children's display, and the flags round the running track were removed, thus throwing some element of doubt on the fact of the true distance having been covered.

The Caledonian Society held a sports meeting at their grounds, Kensington, on Saturday afternoon. The programme included a number of events for school children. The weather was unpropitious, and consequently the attendance was not as large as expected. The following were the successes scored by the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School:—F. Kodden, who was placed first in one of the heats of the 220yds schools championship, was leading in the final and in a fair way to win, when he stumbled and fell within ten yards of the tape. R. Toomey and J. McCleary were second in a heat in the three-legged race (150yds), and W. Creed was placed third in the schools championship long jump. The schools championship relay race was won by the Christian Brothers' School team. In the schools championship (440yds), L. McAllen (Christian Brothers) secured second place. This provided an exceptionally fine race. The whole of the competitors kept close together until they were within 150yds of the winning post, when McAllen went to the front. He appeared to have the race won, but although he struggled on gamely, Cameron, who had been handy as the field entered the straight, after a determined effort secured the verdict by about five yards. The Christian Brothers' boys were awarded 9 points for the shield, the winners being Kensington and Musselburgh with 14 points each.

FOOTBALL.

In an Association football match, England v. Scotland, England won by one goal to nil.

The Christian Brothers' Club, with the zeal of an institution noted for excellence of organisation, was the first to 'kick off' with an enthusiastic annual meeting, at which many new members were enrolled (writes 'Left Rugby' in the *Otago Daily Times*).

The Rugby football season opened in Wellington on Saturday in fine weather, the seven-a-side tournament at Athletic Park attracting a fairly large crowd. Twenty-nine teams competed in three classes, and some very good play was witnessed. The final results were: Athletic A beat St. James by 14 points to nil; fifth class—St. Patrick's College beat Melrose by 3 points to nil; sixth class—St. Patrick's College beat Wellington College by 5 points to 3.

CRICKET.

The final cricket matches of the season in Wellington commenced on Saturday. East A met North on the Basin Reserve, and occupied the crease all the afternoon, knocking up 205 runs (Baker, in, 81, Wagstaff 58, O'Shea 20). Casey (four for 47) and Southall (three for 67) were the best bowlers. East B defaulted to Victoria College. South, playing against Hutt, made 165 (Naughton 34, Burton 26, Murphy 26). Rodgers took three wickets for 55 runs, and Hales four for 32. Hutt have three wickets down for 18.

As was expected, Canterbury had an easy task in defending the Plunket Shield against Otago (says the *Press*). The weather was not the pleasantest for cricket, but it cannot be said to have affected the result. The Canterbury team lacked the services of that reliable bowler Bennett, and Otago's batting and bowling suffered respectively from the absence of Siedeberg and Torrance, but otherwise both provinces mustered their full strength. The Otago score did not, however, really represent the batting value of the

team, and the visitors' collapse in the second innings was, as one spectator remarked, 'just one of those things that might happen to any team.' The result of the match, nevertheless, emphasises Canterbury's supremacy of the season.

Hamilton

(From our own correspondent.)

April 4.

The delegates from the Hamilton Catholic Club to the Goldfields Conference won the debating and the prepared speech competitions. Messrs. Lafferty, O'Leary, and McCarthy (Hamilton) stood for National Prohibition, and defeated Waihi, Thames, and Karangahake, whilst in the prepared speech Mr. Lafferty secured first place. They are to be heartily congratulated on their fine performance, and their success will greatly add to the prestige of the local Catholic Club.

At a meeting of the Catholic Young Men's Club held this week it was decided to enter a football team in the Hamilton Rugby Union competition under the title of St. Mary's Football Club. The following officials were elected:—Patron, Very Rev. Dean Darby; president, Mr. Andrew Casey; vice-presidents—Messrs. J. B. Hooper, E. DeV. McGarrigle, J. A. Hair, R. J. Glover, Farrell, Fraser-Smith, J. Casey, W. E. Jones, and E. Cussen; delegates to the Hamilton Rugby Union, Messrs C. Lafferty and F. Clarkin; selection committee—Messrs F. Clarkin, P. Flynn, and the field captain; club captain, Mr. G. Hamilton; secretary, Mr. M. McCarthy; committee—Messrs. J. Bourke, B. Cassidy, J. Roche, P. Sweeny, G. Hamilton, F. Clarkin. The colors of the club will be green and white jersey and white knickers. Mr. E. deV. McGarrigle presented the club with a match ball and Dean Darby presented a practice ball. The prospects of the club are exceptionally good as there are several of last season's prominent players available for selection.

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

(From our Wellington correspondent.)

Excellent reports are still coming to hand of the progress of the Federation. The provisional Dominion Executive have quite a number of matters to attend to at the next meeting, and this tends to show the need for such an organisation at the present time. Some are inclined to think that there will be not much work for the Federation in New Zealand, but in this they are very much mistaken for the Federation has already been called upon to take action in several matters.

Rakaia

At a meeting of members of the Rakaia Catholic Church, held after Mass on Sunday, April 6, it was resolved to form a branch of the New Zealand Catholic Federation. Rev. Dr. Kennedy addressed the meeting, pointing out the necessity and advantages of the Federation, and concluded by appealing to his people to join its ranks. Fifty-nine names were handed in, and the following officers were elected:—President, Rev. Dr. Kennedy; secretary and treasurer, Mr. M. J. Liddy; committee—Messrs. A. J. Muller, M. J. Liddy, P. Tully, J. Morland, W. Hinds, D. Duncan, V. McAnulty, and Misses M. Doan, M. M. Atflick, J. Hinds, M. Muller. Delegates to the Diocesan Council—Messrs. A. J. Muller and M. J. Liddy.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

Honor.—Mrs. O'Grady, of the Utility Poultry Farm, Coachford, County Cork, who was the winner in the recent competition in London, held under the auspices of the British Poultry Farmers' Association, confines her efforts to raising poultry for table purposes. These, we understand, she sends ready for cooking to customers all over the United Kingdom.

W. F. SHORT

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