

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

An interesting debate took place at the last weekly meeting of the Catholic Men's Club, Mr. M. J. Moriarty presiding. The subject was the inclusion of the suburbs of Ashburton with the borough, thereby creating a greater Ashburton. Mr. M. J. Moriarty led off the debate for the supporters of the movement in favor of the inclusion of the suburbs. He was followed by Mr. W. J. Cunningham, who acted as leader for the negative party. The leaders' speeches were followed by expressions of opinion on the question under debate from several of the members. The subject was fully and keenly discussed, and a vote being taken, there was a majority of one against the suburbs amalgamating with the borough.

Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, addressing the congregation on Sunday morning last, referred to the fact that it had been brought under his notice that the supporters of the Bible-in-Schools League in Ashburton were distributing cards amongst Catholics, asking their signature to the same with a view to petitioning Parliament for a plebiscite to be taken on the Bible-in-Schools question. He spoke scathingly of the tactics adopted by those responsible for the delivery of the cards in their efforts to secure signatures from Catholics. He referred his listeners to the Catholic attitude on this question, as those who subscribed to the *Tablet* would well know, and incidentally he much regretted the fact that a great many Catholic families in Ashburton did not take that most valuable paper.

Quite a gloom was cast over the Catholic community on Monday morning last when the fact became known that Mr. B. J. Cassels had expired suddenly at the residence of Mr. W. Soal. The late Mr. Cassels was one of our most popular Catholic young men, and took a prominent part in football and bowling. He

joined the local Post Office staff, on transfer from Dunedin, some thirteen years ago. The remains were conveyed for interment to Dunedin by the afternoon express of Tuesday, the assemblage of his many friends at the railway station being exceptionally large.—R.I.P.

Thames

The second of a series of social gatherings under the auspices of the members of St. Francis' Church, was held in St. George's Hall recently, and despite numerous counter attractions drew a big attendance. The earlier part of the evening was devoted to a euchre tournament, the winners being Mrs. Collins, who received a dainty jardiniere presented by Mrs. T. Dunbar, and Mr. G. Mackie, whose present was a handsome silver-mounted wallet, gift of Rev. Father Dignan. At the conclusion of the competition the tables were utilised for a dainty supper, which came as a welcome interlude. A meed of praise is due to the energetic secretaries, Misses A. Corbett and T. Mellett, whose arrangements were complete and thoughtful.

The practice of dentistry is now quite a different thing to what it was (says the *N.Z. Times*). Once extraction was rather a matter of strength and force, than delicate skill. No one going to competent practitioners need fear pain, because pain is avoidable, and when inflicted is the evidence of unskilfulness. Quite one of the best surgeries in Wellington is that of Messrs. Marsden and Chamberlain at 69 Manners street, close to the Opera House, and immediately over Mr. McKenzie's Pharmacy. Mr. Chamberlain is a specialist of over sixteen years' experience in painless extraction and plate work. Mr. Marsden has for many years specialised in crown and bridge work as well as in filling teeth with gold, silver, cement, and porcelain....

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