

Considerable discussion took place on the remit from Christchurch 'that in instances such as that at Timaru, where in carrying out the work of the Federation with regard to objectionable plays legal expenses were threatened, the Dominion should indemnify such parish authority or committee.'

It was decided that a resolution be drafted by Mr. Poppelwell, and submitted later.

Rev. Father Coffey moved, and Mr. Hayward seconded, 'That no publication purporting to be issued under the auspices or with the authority of the Federation be issued unless such publication has been first submitted to and approved by the Dominion Council.'—Carried.

It was decided that both the Dominion Council and Diocesan Council be empowered to appoint honorary legal advisers.

It was also decided that no member of the Federation, or any other person whatsoever, shall have any authority to bind the Federation, or any body thereunder, without direct authority in writing from the Federation, or such body respectively; nor shall the Federation, or any body thereunder, be in any way responsible for any act, matter, or thing, purporting to be done on its behalf, unless such authority shall have previously been given in writing; no body under the Federation shall have any power to act on behalf of or bind the Federation, or any other body, unless specially authorised in writing so to do by the Dominion Council, or Executive, or such lesser body respectively.

Rev. Father Coffey moved, and Mr. Callaghan seconded 'That it be a recommendation to the Diocesan Councils to set up Catholic literature committees of four or more members, to submit lists of suitable books for adoption in public libraries, such lists to be interchanged through the secretary of the Dominion Council, and transmitted to the respective Parish Committees, with a request that they make application at the local public library, and that such diocesan literature sub-committees suggest similarly what books are considered objectionable as unfit to be read by general subscribers.'—Carried.

Rev. Father Coffey suggested that the Dominion Executive be recommended to consider the best means of publishing and circulating, say monthly, an account of Federation matters.—Carried.

Mr. Hayward moved, and Father Coffey seconded, that it be a recommendation to the Dominion Executive that a bonus of £20 be handed to Mr. Hoskins, provisional secretary, as some recognition of his services.

Election of Officers.

The next matter dealt with was the appointment of the officers of the Dominion Council:

Mr. George Girling-Butcher was nominated by Messrs. Hayward and McLaughlin as president, and duly elected by acclamation. On the motion of Mr. Callaghan, seconded by Rev. Father Edge, Mr. Poppelwell (Otago), Mr. Hayward (Christchurch), and Mr. McLaughlin (Auckland) were elected vice-presidents.

Rev. Father Hurley was elected Dominion treasurer, on the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Hayward.

In connection with the office of secretary, Mr. Poppelwell moved, and Mr. Callaghan seconded, 'That the question of the appointment and remuneration of a paid secretary be left to the Dominion Executive.'—Carried.

The following gentlemen were duly elected as members of the Dominion Executive:—Messrs. T. J. McCosker, P. D. Hoskins, A. H. Casey, F. K. Reeves, M. O'Kane, D. S. Columb, J. E. Ward.

On the motion of Mr. Poppelwell, seconded by Rev. Father Edge, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the provisional Dominion Executive for the excellent work which they had done since the inauguration of the Federation, and under such trying circumstances.—Carried.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

HYDE.

Immediately after Mass on Sunday, July 13, the congregation assembled in the church for the purpose of forming a branch of the Catholic Federation. After the objects of the Federation had been explained by Rev. Father Lynch, a local committee was elected, consisting of the following:—Rev. Father Lynch (president), Messrs. P. Kinney and H. McAuley (vice-presidents), Mr. M. Prendergast (secretary), Mr. T. Dowling (treasurer), Messrs. O. Laverty, P. Kinney, jun., W. Hally, M. Kinney, P. McBride, J. E. Carvalho, P. Cushman, J. Gill, Mesdames Kinney, Lynch, and Carvalho (Altar Society), Misses McAuley, E. A. Kinney, and Katie Kinney (Christian Doctrine). It was decided to hold meetings monthly. About 40 members are already enrolled.

CHRISTCHURCH.

The ordinary monthly meeting of St. Mary's branch of the Catholic Federation was held on Sunday, July 27, when an interesting discussion on several important questions eventuated. The secretary was empowered to act in the formation of sub-committees at Hornby and Papanui. Decisions were arrived at on several subjects sent out by the Diocesan Council for consideration. On the Bible-in-Schools question the following resolution was carried:—'That the Bible-in-Schools measure as promulgated by a certain section of the community is against the natural right and conscience of the Catholics of New Zealand, and that the League's scheme will also violate the natural right and conscience of many non-Catholics of New Zealand; that Catholics as taxpayers in common with others pay an education tax. They also provide their own schools for the education of Catholic children, and they resent having to pay for a mangled and emasculated Bible being read in the public schools of New Zealand; that the scheme of Government religious instruction that is proposed by the Bible-in-Schools League is admittedly suited for only a section of four religious denominations in this Dominion, and that it is admittedly unsuited to the remaining forty or fifty denominations; that the League's scheme is notoriously unjust, and the rights and consciences of a minority will be outraged, which is against all true democracy.'

WANGANUI.

A meeting of the parish committee of the Catholic Federation was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Thursday, July 24, Very Rev. Dean Holley occupying the chair. The routine business of the parish committee was gone through and a quantity of correspondence read and received, after which it was resolved that a meeting of those who canvassed for signatures to the petition to Parliament against the Bible-in-Schools League's proposals be called for the purpose of undertaking a house-to-house visitation amongst Catholics for Federation enrolments.

Very Rev. Dean Holley, being unable to attend the first meeting of the Dominion Council, of which he is a member, then conferred with the committee on the matter of remits to the Executive, the following remits being the outcome:—(1) 'That the Dominion Executive be requested to consider the advisability of agitating for an amendment of the law, so that Catholic children obtaining Education Board Scholarships shall have the absolute right to take them out at a Catholic secondary educational institution without having to obtain the approval of an Education Board'; (2) 'That the Dominion Executive be urged to consider the need at the present time of proceeding with the proposed lectures on proportional representation.'

MIDDELMARCH.

On Sunday, July 27, a branch of the Catholic Federation was inaugurated at Middlemarch. After the aims and objects of the Federation were explained by Rev. Father Lynch, the following were appointed a committee:—President, Rev. Father Lynch; vice-presidents, Messrs. E. O'Connell and M. Moynihan; treasurer, Mr. M. McGrath; secretary, Mr. John O'Connell. About 40 members were enrolled.

Wm. R. Kells

UNDERTAKERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS,

46 MAIN STREET, PALMERSTON NORTH.

Polished Caskets Supplied. Catholic Emblems in Stock.

Telephone 504 (Night or Day).

Chas. Pike