

SELF-DETERMINATION FOR IRELAND LEAGUE

MEETING AT WELLINGTON.

A general meeting of the Self-Determination for Ireland League was recently held at the Paramount Theatre, Wellington, for the purpose of presenting a progress report by the executive, and to invite criticism, if needed.

The chairman (Mr. P. J. O'Regan) presided, and there was a large attendance. The chairman explained that the meeting was held on a Sunday evening, owing to the difficulty in securing a hall for a week night for some time to come.

Mr. O'Regan, in opening the meeting, said that negotiations had been in progress between the British Government and the representatives of Ireland; all hope they would result in a satisfactory settlement. (Hear, hear.) Sympathisers overseas would join in wishing for a permanent settlement of the Irish question. The speaker desired not to criticise the negotiations, but to say that they offered much more than the limits of the Home Rule Bill. The question of the government of Ireland was a matter for the people, without any interference. It was not fair to criticise the deliberations of the Parliament of Ireland, but the members had full confidence in President de Valera and his Parliament. (Applause.) The people of England would lend their support to it, as the most deliberative Parliament in the world. The time had arrived for a protest against the sustained and systematic propaganda of the press, which held up the most law-abiding men in Ireland as murderers. This propaganda has been encouraged by the sentence of Ireland's sympathisers, but not even the threat of war legislation would keep them quiet any longer. (Applause.)

The secretary (Mr. M. J. Reardon) read a comprehensive report on the work of the League since its inception in May last.

Suppressed Literature

A member asked what attitude the League would take in regard to the suppression of literature dealing with the Irish question.

The chairman said that the war legislation included literature appertaining to Ireland. Some of the literature had been suppressed for a reason that it was very difficult to understand.

Several questions, in regard to the administration of the League, were answered by the chairman.

Everything that was done in the League was done in a whisper, said a member, who referred to the affairs of the Marlborough branch.

The chairman: There may be whispers in Marlborough, but there are no whispers here. (Applause.)

A resolution, to adopt the report, was agreed to.

Late T. J. Ryan

Mr. P. Fraser, M.P., moved—"That this meeting records its appreciation of the late Mr. T. J. Ryan's services to the cause of Ireland, and expresses its condolence with his widow and family in the loss they have sustained by his sudden and untimely death."

The resolution was carried, members standing in their places.

Mr. Fraser congratulated the League on its having issued 170,000 pamphlets and leaflets, giving the truth about Ireland. "The Case for Ireland" was unanswerable.

Father Gondringer moved—"That this meeting places on record its appreciation of the services rendered to the cause of Ireland by Miss Katherine Hughes, of Canada." Miss Hughes, said the speaker, had breathed a new spirit into the League movement in New Zealand.

The resolution was carried, amid applause.

The Irish Policy

Mr. O'Regan moved—"That this meeting of the Self-Determination for Ireland League of New Zealand records its entire confidence in President de Valera and the Dail Eireann to determine the policy which will best serve the interests of the people of Ireland. That a copy of this resolution be cabled to President de Valera."

The motion was carried.

General

On the motion of Mr. Griffin, jun., it was decided to set up a committee for the purpose of taking definite steps for organising relief for distress in Ireland.

Father Gondringer mentioned that the pupils of St. Patrick's College had donated £10 to the movement.

N.Z. CATHOLIC FEDERATION

DOMINION COUNCIL MEETING.

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual meeting of the Dominion Council of the New Zealand Catholic Federation was held at Dustin's rooms, Wellington, on Wednesday, the 31st ult. The Very Rev. Father O'Connell, Dominion president, presided, and the following delegates were present:—Very Rev. Dean Cahill and Mr. J. M. Coleman (Auckland); Messrs. S. J. Ryan and F. J. Doolan (Christchurch); Very Rev. Father Coffey and Mr. D. L. Poppelwell (Dunedin); Major Halpin, Messrs. J. A. Scott, M.A., LL.M., and W. M. Luxford (Wellington); Mr. P. D. Hoskins (Dominion treasurer) and Mr. A. B. Boake (general secretary). Apologies for absence were received from his Grace Archbishop O'Shea (who was unable to attend through illness), Mr. T. J. Hussey (Dunedin), and Dr. Maskell (Auckland). Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., delivered an interesting presidential address, outlining the activities of the Federation, and quoted an extract from a speech delivered by Rev. Father Yorke, of America, which was appropriate to the New Zealand Federation.

The reports from the Diocesan Councils were given by the delegates present and were most satisfactory, especially in regard to the scholarship activities.

The report of the Dominion Executive showed an increase in membership, and, since the last annual meeting, had published three issues of the *Catholic Federationist*, a quarterly magazine published to chronicle the activities of the Federation and articles of interest to Catholics of the Dominion. The envelope system of enrolment had proved in the majority of reports very satisfactory and an improvement on the old method of enrolling. A supply of Catholic literature had been obtained for distribution to parish committees at cost price. The report and statement of accounts were adopted.

Remits from all the diocesan councils of the Dominion were received and dealt with, and a very considerable amount of general business was transacted.

Among the resolutions passed was one as follows:—"That the Dominion Council congratulate the diocesan councils on their success in establishing scholarships, and commend such councils that special subscriptions be raised through parish committees in support of their scholarship funds."

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—President, Very Rev. Father O'Connell; vice-presidents, Very Rev. Dean Cahill (Auckland), Mr. D. L. Poppelwell (Gore), and Rev. Father Kerley (Christchurch); treasurer, Mr. P. D. Hoskins.

WEDDING BELLS

FINLAY—FLANNERY.

The wedding was solemnised at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin, on July 27, of John, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Finlay, of Windsor, and Gertrude Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Flannery, of Ophir, Central Otago (writes a correspondent). Rev. Father O'Dea, of Ophir, officiated, and celebrated a Nuptial Mass. The bride was given away by her father. Miss Kitty Flannery was bridesmaid, and the bridegroom was attended by his brother, Mr. Frank Finlay. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. F. Donnelly, Musselburgh, Dunedin, Rev. Fathers O'Dea, Kaveney, and Spillane being among those present. Many telegrams of congratulation were received. The newly-wedded couple left later by motor for the south, where the honeymoon was spent.

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