

Too narrowing outlook, which threatened New Zealand and the other Dominions as they grew, each into its own sense of nationality and semi-independence. There was an old-fashioned idea that a distant Dominion could, during its years of development, enjoy the privileges of fatherly shelter and protection by the Old Country, and then, when it was able to walk and advance itself, could throw off that protection and go independently. That view had now practically been exploded, and the Overseas Club could advance and strengthen the growing opinion that the Dominions could not do without the strength and mutual cohesion of the Empire. (Hearty applause.) New Zealand and the other countries could no longer look to Britain as their sure and sole means of security and protection; but neither could they, as individual units, look to themselves, by themselves as a body, to be able to fight against the dangers that could be found throughout the world. What the Dominions could do was, by joining together and by consolidation, to present such a front to the world that the combination would be irresistible in its force, and would be the greatest factor in the peace of the world. He believed an organic Empire, in the future, was perfectly compatible with the freedom of Dominion autonomy throughout the Empire. (Applause.)

A National Gallery.

There is now fair prospect of the old and inflammable building which inadequately houses the treasures of the Dominion museum in Wellington being replaced by a suitable structure. The Minister in charge of the museum (the Hon. G. W. Russell) has spent a good deal of time with the Dominion architect deciding the final plans of the new Dominion museum, and it was intended to put the building on the Sydney-street frontage running towards the old museum, so that there would be housing room for all the material in the old building when it had to be pulled down to make room for further extension of the museum. "The urgent need," said the Minister, "is a national museum, and that is what we have to deal with now. I don't consider that the Wellington Art Gallery should be provided by the State. Any gallery which may be built in the future will be a national one and strictly on that basis."

Empire Day.

Discussing the proposal to celebrate Empire Day on June 22, which combines the anniversaries of the King's Coronation and Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, Sir Joseph Ward said that at the Imperial Conference he had urged that Empire Day should be celebrated on the birthday of the reigning sovereign. He was still of that opinion, believing that it was desirable to have one general day fixed throughout the Empire. When Queen Victoria died Empire Day was appointed for May 24. When later on King Edward passed away a difficulty arose about recognising his birthday. As the custom throughout the Empire was to recognise the birthday of the reigning sovereign, there seemed to be a danger of a multiplicity of holidays. It seemed to him that the best plan was to celebrate Empire Day on the King's Birthday. He was convinced that Empire Day would receive more enthusiastic and united support from the people throughout the Empire if some arrangement of that kind was come to.

Auckland Post Office.

Upon the completion of the new post office in Queen-street, which is expected to be ready for business about the beginning of June, the present building will be relegated to the portion of a branch office. All postal and telegraphic matter will be received and forwarded to the main office by pneumatic tube. The money order and postal note business will also be transacted through the same office. As the whole of the building will not be required in future, a portion of it will be utilised for other purposes. The Bank of Australasia will use it as a business premises for a period of 15 months during which the present building is being rebuilt.

Betting Raids.

A sequel to the recent betting raid in Auckland was the prosecution of the persons arrested. The principals in each case were fined £75 and costs, and those found on the premises were generally fined £1 and costs.

Personal Notes

Mr. Fred. Moore has been re-elected president of the Wanganui Agricultural Association.

Mr. R. P. Worley, B.Sc., of St. John's College, has been awarded the Sir George Grey Scholarship of the Auckland University College for the present year.

The Postmaster-General (Hon. H. G. Ell) had to cancel his trip to Te Aroha for the purpose of opening a new post office owing to the death of Mrs. Ell's mother at Christchurch.

The Hon. G. W. Russell and Mrs. Russell are to be accorded a public welcome on their forthcoming visit to Cambridge on the occasion of the Minister's inspection of the Maungakawa Sanatorium.

The Rev. G. F. Stockwell, formerly of Irapara, North Auckland, has left for Wellington, en route to Waimate, whither he was consigned by the recent Methodist Conference in Auckland. Mr. Stockwell was accompanied by his family.

The Right Rev. Dr. Cleary assisted in the ceremony of investing with the pallium his Grace Archbishop Kelly, Sydney, Bishop Cleary will return to Auckland again by the Wimmera, leaving Sydney on the 24th inst.

At a meeting held in Gisborne it was decided to entertain Sir James Carroll at a public gathering to suitably recognise his efficient services as member for the district and as Minister of the Crown. Over £100 was subscribed in the room towards the object in view.

The Hon. J. Colvin (Minister for Mines), who arrived at Westport last week, was met by a large and representative gathering and accorded a hearty welcome and congratulations on his elevation to the Ministry. In the evening he was entertained at a largely attended banquet, over which the Mayor presided. The Minister was entertained the next night at a large gathering, at which a resolution was passed expressing confidence in Mr. Colvin as a Minister and in the Liberal party, and congratulating the Hon. T. Mackenzie on his selection as Prime Minister.

To mark the close of a strenuous year in connection with the affairs of the Auckland Acclimatisation Society, which nevertheless has been left in a stronger position than ever, the presentation of a very beautiful silver tea service was made to the chairman (Mr. W. H. Hazard) at the close of the annual meeting. In making the presentation, Mr. R. Gwynne (Hamilton) said that the gift had been subscribed to by country clubs as an expression of appreciation of Mr. Hazard's services in the interests of unity concerning acclimatisation matters in the Auckland province.

The death occurred at Palmerston North of Mrs. Kummer, wife of Mr. W. N. R. Kummer, of Long Lea, Masterton. The deceased was the eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Linton, banker, of England.

Messrs. R. Moxon and A. Gardiner, of Palmerston North, have left for a holiday trip to England. Prior to their departure they were the recipients of silver cigarette cases from the members of the Manawatu Amateur Athletic Club. Mr. H. Cooper made the presentations.

Mr. T. M. Wilford, in a letter to Mr. Cracroft Wilson, dated 1st March, stated that he was much improved in health, and was just about to leave for a secluded spot in the South of Europe. He stated further that the doctors had informed him that if he followed out instructions carefully he would soon be "as well as he has ever been in his life, and better than he has been for many years."

Mr. Chas. Clifford, who is leaving Palmerston North for England, was the recipient of a parting memento, the presentation being in the form of a handsome travelling bag, with silver plate suitably inscribed.

The death occurred last week of Mr. John H. Griffin, a well-known and highly respected resident of Nelson.

Rouney Marsh sheepshearers in all parts of the world will hear with the deepest regret of the recent death of Mr. C. Pile, of Elltham, Canterbury, in his fifty-sixth year, after a short illness.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Nourad, of Palmerston North, son-in-law and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Matthews, Wairoa-gomai, have left on a trip to Denmark.

Mr. E. S. Ellis, of Carterton, is leaving for England.

Mr. I. H. Barker, a member of the Timaru A. and P. Association, is about to leave on a visit to England.

The Rev. T. Currow, for the past three years curate at St. Mary's Church, has left Timaru for Avonside, where he is to take up the office of curate of St. Saviour's Church.

Changes in the Catholic clergy, in the South, have recently been made as follows: Rev. Father Woods, who has been in Oamaru for the past two years, goes to Invercargill, Rev. Father E. Lynch, who has been acting temporarily at St. Joseph's Cathedral since Christmas, goes to Oamaru, and Rev. Father Buckley, of Holy Cross College, has been appointed to St. Joseph's Cathedral. Rev. Father P. J. O'Neil has been appointed assistant to Rev. Father Keenan, Riversdale, whose health has not been satisfactory for some time.

Mr. Frank Elsworth Hilliker, who won the New Zealand draughts championship last week, is a native of Oamaru. He first took part in a championship contest under the auspices of the New Zealand Draughts Association, at Christchurch, in 1908, when he ran into fourth place. In 1904 he competed at the Wanganui tournament, and fought out the final with Mr. James Gardiner, being eventually beaten by him and securing second position. He did not compete again until 1908, when he secured the championship title, with Gardiner runner-up. In the tournaments of 1909, 1910, and 1911 he ran well in the play, being runner-up to Penman last year, when the Australasian title was also involved. In Penman's absence this year, Mr. Hilliker maintains relative position by securing first place.

Professor F. W. Haslam, who has occupied the chair of classics at the Canterbury College for the past 32 years is resigning on the ground of ill-health.

Mr. W. D. B. Murray, of Palmerston North, with his son, Mr. G. H. Murray, has left for an extended tour through the Northern portion of the Island, via Rotorua, Te Aroha, and Auckland.

The Rev. J. J. Pendray, of Eketahuna, was tendered a farewell social last week by the congregation of the Methodist Church.

Mr. C. Holdaway, of Ballance, and formerly of Masterton, has received word from America that his son, Mr. C. W. Holdaway, who is a student at the Blacksburg College, Virginia, was placed at the top of the honours list at the recent examination. Mr. Holdaway was the only senior student who obtained a "distinguished" pass, for which 93 per cent of marks must be obtained. Recently Mr. Holdaway travelled over the State of Virginia, delivering lectures on "Dairying."

Colonel James Allen, M.P., is entitled to receive the colonial auxiliary long-service medal for service extending over twenty years and three hundred and thirty days.

The Rev. M. Arlyton, Methodist minister at Tauranga, has left for his new appointment in the Westland district, and the Rev. Mr. Richards arrives at Tauranga from Raetihi this week.

Mr. C. W. Salmon, who for some years has been associated with the engineering work in connection with the section of the East Coast railway within the boundaries of the Tauranga County, has been transferred to Gisborne.

Mr. G. A. Corinack has been appointed Deputy Chief Electoral Officer for New Zealand.

Mr. A. S. Palmer has been appointed registrar of marriages, births and deaths for the Mount Grey district.

The Hon. W. C. F. Carmichael, M.L.C., has been confined to his home at Elltham with illness.

Captain H. D. Johnson, Harbourmaster at Wellington, who has been spending his annual holiday in Australia, has returned.

A private letter received in Wellington states that at the time of writing Mr. D. T. Stuart was touring in Italy, and expected to be back in England about the middle of April. He has arranged to leave London on his return journey to Wellington next September.

Mr. John Macalister, formerly one of the most prominent members of the legal profession in Invercargill, died at his residence, West Plains, last week, the

cause of death being heart failure. The late Mr. Macalister was fifty-four years of age, and he was born in Lomarkshire, Scotland.

The following military changes are announced:—8th Regiment (Southland Rifles), Sergeant Peter McKenzie to be second lieutenant; 10th Regiment (North Otago), Jules Caesar Malffroy to be second lieutenant. The Colonial Auxiliary Force's long service medal has been awarded to Colonel James Allen, New Zealand Garrison. Captain J. E. Watson, of the 8th Regiment (Southland Rifles) has been promoted to the rank of major.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Galbraith, of Invercargill, have left for Australia, and intend to spend a holiday tour of about eight weeks' duration in the various towns of the Commonwealth, afterwards visiting the South Sea Islands and the northern portion of New Zealand.

Mrs. Stevenson, who died at Barnago lately, was a colonist of nearly 50 years' standing, nearly all of which was spent at Okokia, where her husband died about five years ago.

Miss Mary Gordon Frazer, daughter of Mr. A. Frazer, Kaitangata, has won one of the scholarships of the Royal Academy of Music, London. The scholarship entitles the holder to free musical tuition at the Royal Academy or Royal College, London, for a course of not less than two years.

Mr. A. E. Horn has received notice that he has been granted the associate ship of the Otago School of Mines.

Mr. Herbert Black, A.O.S.M., who has been professionally engaged for the past 13 years on the goldfields of Western Australia, is visiting Dunedin, prior to his departure for England.

Archbishop Redwood, who was 73 years of age this month, will on May 13 attain the silver jubilee of his elevation to the high position he now holds. On that day New Zealand was formed into a separate ecclesiastical province, and Wellington was made the Archbishopric, with Dr. Redwood as Archbishop. The occasion is to be duly celebrated. The clergy of the diocese have already had the matter under consideration, and a meeting of the laity is to be held.

The Rev. Father Collins, who during the past two years has ministered to the Roxburgh part of the Dunedin diocese, and who is now on the staff of Holy Cross College, Musgiel, was recently the recipient of a wallet and purse of sovereigns from the congregation of St. Mary's, Roxburgh. Mr. Waigh made the presentation, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the zeal manifested by Father Collins in his sacred calling. Rev. Father O'Connell, who succeeds Father Collins, also spoke.

Mr. D. Faulks, of the staff of the Telegraph Office, Christchurch, has been transferred to the Dunedin office.

Mr. Robert Brown, an old resident of Dunedin, died at his residence in Cargill-street on Monday night, at the age of 83 years. The deceased gentleman, who was born at Kilkenny, Scotland, came to Victoria during the gold rush, and arrived in Dunedin about 50 years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Brown would have been married for 60 years if the former had lived until July.

Mr. Arthur Hugh Fletcher has been appointed to be second assistant Land Registrar at Auckland.

Mrs. Mudge and her daughter, Miss Alison Mudge, well known in local musical circles, have left to join the Orient steamer Orma at Sydney on their way to visit friends in Scotland.

Mr. H. G. Groatbach, who has been promoted to Auckland from the position of officer-in-charge of the Telegraph Department in Napier, has taken up his new duties in Auckland.

A committee of residents in Christchurch South electorate has arranged to give a social on May 9, to commemorate Mr. H. G. Ell's appointment to the Ministry. Mr. Ell has not made arrangements in regard to taking his family to reside in Wellington, and has no intention of doing so.

The following is the list of guests invited to the dinner party at Government House last week:—Mr. and Mrs. Dunnet, Mr. and Mrs. Duthie, Mr. and Mrs. Huggall, Captain and Mrs. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bloomfield, Miss Edie Williams, Mr. and Mrs. H. Horton, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan, Major and Mrs. Brailsford, Mr. and Mrs. Tibbie, Mr. and Mrs. Colbeck, Professor A. W. Thomas, Monsieur and Madame Rigoreau, Archdeacon and Mrs. Gilder.

Major Asada, who is paying a short visit to Christchurch, holds command of an infantry brigade in the Japanese