

## Interprovincial

Miss Julia Moran, the well-known and talented violinist, is on a visit to Auckland. She is at present spending a few days with her sister, Sister St. Helena of the Monastery of the Sacred Heart, Hamilton.

Mr. Carnegie has written offering the Timaru Borough Council a sum of £3000 with which to erect a public library. The money will be forthcoming only on condition that the library is made free.

One man, after the Poverty Bay floods, could only muster 28 cows out of 44, and had lost 30 to 40 pigs, besides poultry. Another man, who has just started, had only six left out of 36, and all his other stock had gone.

Ex-Sergeant Fleming, who has retired from the Police Force after 33 years' service, was presented with a purse of sovereigns at Queenstown. The 'Wakaitipu Mail' states that Mr. and Mrs. Fleming intend to reside in Christchurch.

Mr. P. Toomey, who was for many years licensee of the Golden Fleece Hotel at Waikouaiti, was entertained by the residents of the district at a social gathering on Friday evening. Mr. Robert Templeton, who presided, paid a high compliment to Mr. Toomey as a citizen, and said that the action of the licensing committee in refusing to grant a license to the Golden Fleece Hotel had come as a surprise to all. The presentation, which was made by Mr. T. MacKenzie, M.H.R., consisted of an illuminated address. During the evening a number of vocal and instrumental items and recitations were given, and the proceedings were wound up with a dance. Mr. Toomey intends to follow farming pursuits, in which he has been interested for many years, in the district.

The lot of back-block teachers in Taranaki at present is a most unenviable one. Owing to the terrible state of the roads, it is unsafe in many cases to send children to school, and in consequence teachers' salaries are suffering severely. To cite a case: A teacher accepted the position of sole teacher at Mangaroa, the advertised salary being £90. During the past three months the salary only averaged the rate of £66 per annum. At present in that district, as in numerous other isolated quarters, the cost of living is exorbitantly high on account of the cost of carriage. The 4lb loaf costs 10d, kerosene 15s per case, flour 16s 6d per cwt, and so on.

The two Japanese gentlemen who are now touring the Colony state that their countrymen are likely to include meat in their diet, and it is quite possible that they will get it from New Zealand. American tinned meat has already found its way to Japan in considerable quantities, and the movement in favor of a meat diet appears to be increasing. China will, says Mr. Sakamoto, probably follow suit in this respect, so that the opportunities of trade with a producing country like New Zealand are considerable. He pointed out, however, that one essential would be the establishment of a direct line of steamers between New Zealand and Japan, and hinted that there was a possibility of such a line being established by a Japanese firm.

The Government will at an early date throw open a large area of promising country in the Nelson land district, close to the route of the Midland railway. Back of the Victoria mountains there is a prosperous settlement in the basin of the Marua river, a tributary of the Buller. It is now proposed to open, within a few months at the outside, another part of the Marua basin, comprising 17,000 acres, north of the settlement referred to, and close to the junction of the Marua with the Buller. When the railway is completed this area will be tapped by the line. There is another block of considerable dimensions in the neighborhood of Lake Rotorua, not far from the present terminus of the railway at Tadmor, which will probably be thrown open at an early date.

It is a little startling to learn that a mining engineer has come all the way from the Yukon gold-fields to test the Waihi fields with a divining rod. According to the 'New Zealand Herald,' Mr. David Kirkwood has not only made the journey, but has, so he says, located the celebrated Martha reef of the Waihi mine, considerably beyond the Waihi Company's claim. Mining in Waihi is in a curious position, in that the place is practically dependent on the one mine. Millions have been taken out of the Waihi Company's hill, but the claims round it have met with little or no success. Mr. Kirkwood declares that working with his divining rod, he has found that, contrary to the general opinion of miners familiar with the country, the Martha reef extends beyond the company's boundary, from 300ft to 500ft below the surface, and 90ft wide.

The weekly meeting of the Hokitika Catholic Debating Society (writes our own correspondent) was held on Tuesday evening, July 24, when an essay competition was held, the subject being, 'The Life of the late Right Hon. Hon. R. J. Seddon.' Rev. Father Aubry and Mr. J. L. Ralfe were appointed judges, and a very handsome prize was presented to the winner by Mr. W. A. Dixon. Mr. B. Cox was adjudged the winner.

Another piece of evidence in the case against the kea for sheep-killing was on view in Timaru last week, in the form of a sheepskin with a large perforation in the back, close behind the shoulders. The skin came from Mr. Burnett's Mount Cook station, and Mr. Burnett states that the perforation was made by a kea, which attacked the sheep and killed it by pecking at its vital parts. He also says that he has on other occasions lost sheep under circumstances which left no doubt that they were victims of the kea.

Sir Joseph Ward, Postmaster-General and Minister of Railways, who has been absent from the Colony for several months on a visit to Great Britain, Europe, and America, returned to New Zealand by the San Francisco mail steamer 'Sierra,' which arrived at Auckland on Monday. He was accompanied by Lady Ward, Miss Ward, Mr. Ward, and Mr. B. Wilson (private secretary). The first to meet them on arrival were Mrs. W. Henderson (sister to Lady Ward), Master P. Ward, and Mr. J. Hislop (private secretary). The 'Sierra' arrived at the anchorage in the harbor about 4 o'clock, and shortly afterwards the members of the committee appointed in connection with the arrangements for the official reception left Queen street wharf in the Harbor Board's launch 'Kuaka' for the purpose of receiving Sir Joseph Ward on the steamer and ascertaining his desires in regard to an official reception and presentation of a address at the Council Chambers. Mr. Mitchelson, on behalf of the committee, expressed his pleasure at seeing the Minister return in the best of health. Sir Joseph replied in equally brief and felicitous terms, and shook hands with the members of the committee. Later on when the 'Sierra' was berthed Sir Joseph, in reply to repeated calls from the crowd on the wharf, made a brief speech.

Those requiring tailor-made suits, superior in style, workmanship, and material, should call on or write to Messrs. Ballantyne and Co., Christchurch.

Messrs. Brown, Ewing, and Co., Dunedin, call attention to their superior double-bed colonial blankets at 19s 6d a pair.

Messrs. Duthie Bros, George street, Dunedin, are always noted for their superior class of goods. They announce special reductions in such lines as white shirts, men's all-wool pants and trousers, dress lengths in voiles and lustres, blankets, and ladies' mantles.

A notice of considerable interest to sufferers from nervous troubles, neuralgia, sciatica, paralysis, rheumatic gout, stiff joints, etc, appears in this issue. Mr. D. E. Booth, masseur and X-ray operator, and Mrs. Booth, masseuse and electrician, George street, Dunedin, by their various methods treat with the greatest success the ailments mentioned.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.

### EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH**. Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office **BY TUESDAY MORNING**. Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

**ADDRESS** matter intended for publication 'Editor, TABLET, Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

**ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS** are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly, **ESPECIALLY NAMES** of persons and places. Reports of **MARRIAGES** and **DEATHS** are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d. is made.