

competitions were promoted by the Friendly Societies' Council for the first time during the past winter. The latest addition to the Council, the H.A.C.B. Society, was the first to win this handsome trophy. The health and prosperity of the winning team was proposed by the chairman, and responded to by Bros. Thos. Norris (treasurer). Many other toasts were honored, which, together with songs and other items, passed an exceedingly pleasant evening.

## Interprovincial

There are 1162 licensed hotels in New Zealand.

Residents of long standing in the Wairarapa County state they cannot remember having seen the native cabbage trees covered so luxuriantly with blossoms as they are this year.

The well-known Otekaikae Estate, on the Waitaki River, near Oamaru, which was acquired by the Government a short time ago, is to be opened for selection early next year.

'Growing wheat is like playing euchre with the joker in,' said a witness at the Arbitration Court at Leeston the other day. 'You may hold the two bowers and the ace and then get euchred.'

The potato blight is spreading in the Wellington district. Large quantities of diseased potatoes are coming into the Wellington markets from the Hutt Valley and from Otaki. The Sydney importations, on the other hand, are excellent.

The latest epistolary puzzle set for solution by the Postal Department was a letter addressed: 'Timaro Kanaborg, Nyselund, Thora Harrits, fra Denmark.' The postal officials in Denmark had marked the letter 'New Zealand,' and the rest apparently was easy, for when it reached Timaru it was marked, 'Try Mrs. Harris, Buchanan's Paddock.' She proved to be the person for whom the letter was intended.

The large attendance of farmers at the sittings of the Conciliation Board in Leeston on Friday (says the 'Press') indicated that an extraordinarily keen interest is being taken in the question that is being dealt with. All the sitting accommodation in the Town Hall was occupied, and late arrivals had to be satisfied with standing room. It was estimated that there were considerably more than 300 farmers and farm workers present. One very noticeable feature was the general good nature and spirit of amiable tolerance that prevailed. The evidence was followed with marked interest, and the scoring of points on either side was signalled by applause.

## 'Colonial Everyday Cookery'

There are many cookery books on the market, the majority of these having been compiled for countries where the conditions of life are very different from those obtaining in these colonies; consequently the production of a really good cookery book is of national importance. There is a constant demand for new dishes to assist the housewife in the task that so often perplexes her of finding something fresh and appetising for the table. Consequently, the new and enlarged edition of the 'Colonial Everyday Cookery' sent to us by the publishers, Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs Limited, is sure to receive a hearty welcome. The fact that this book is now in its fifth edition (fiftieth thousand) speaks with no uncertain sound as to its enormous popularity. The publishers further claim that this new edition, which has been almost entirely rewritten, and which contains 391 pages of printed matter besides illustrations, is the largest book ever published within the Dominion at the moderate price of 1s.

Messrs. Louis Gille and Co., Sydney and Melbourne, have a list of latest publications in this issue....

Smith and Smith, Ltd., oil and color merchants, Octagon, Dunedin, and also at Wellington and Christchurch, are designers and makers of stained-glass windows (ecclesiastical and domestic), also leaded lights, etc. The firm gained the gold medal against European competition at the recent New Zealand International Exhibition. They are agents for the Toronto Roofing Company's Metallic Steel Ceiling and walls, are importers of artists' materials, brushes, and all requisites suitable for convent schools, and make a specialty of framed and unframed bevelled mirrors....

## WEDDING BELLS

DAWKINS—FITZGERALD.

A wedding of more than usual interest (says the 'Ensign') was celebrated at the residence of Mr. Edward Fitzgerald, 'The Willows,' Balfour, on November 20, when Miss Margaret, his second eldest daughter, was united in the bonds of Matrimony to Mr. William Dawkins, of Gore. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Keenan, of Riversdale. The bride was given away by her father, and she was very becomingly attired in a dress of embroidered silk delaine, with passementerie lace trimmings. She wore the customary wreath and veil, and also a handsome gold necklet and chain, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by her two sisters (Misses Louisa and Mary), who wore gold band rings set with rubies and sapphires, the gifts of the bridegroom. Mr. Joseph Shultz acted as best man and Mr. Edward Fitzgerald, junr., as groomsmen. After the ceremony an adjournment was made to a large marquee erected for the occasion, in which breakfast—at which fully 150 sat down—was laid by Mrs. Fitzgerald, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. D. McFarlane, of Gore, and a number of other willing workers, and after full justice had been done to the good things provided, the usual toast list was gone through. The Rev. Father Keenan presided, and proposed the health of 'The Bride and Bridegroom.' Other toasts were also duly honoured. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Dawkins left for Queenstown, where the honeymoon was to be spent. They were the recipients of many costly and useful gifts.

McDERMOTT—RIST.

The marriage of Mr. James McDermott and Miss Celia Rist took place at St. Patrick's Cathedral on November 6 (writes our Auckland correspondent). The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in white silk, and wore the customary wreath and veil. She carried an ivory prayer-book which, with a handsome brooch, was the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were Misses Nora Rist and May McDermott, who carried pretty bouquets which, with a gold watch each, were gifts from the bridegroom. The groomsmen were Messrs. W. McDermott and J. Grace. The Nuptial Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Brodie, of Waihi (cousin of the bride), assisted by Fathers Holbrook, Adm., Farthing, Cahill, and Bradley. Mr. Harry Hiscocks presided at the organ, and at the conclusion of the ceremony played the 'Wedding March.' At the reception, which was held at the residence of the bride's parents, many congratulatory letters and telegrams were received. The happy couple left during the afternoon for Rotorua, where the honeymoon was spent. The wedding presents were numerous, and of an artistic and useful character.

## OBITUARY

MRS. M. McDONNELL, GREYMOUTH.

It is with sincere regret (writes our Greymouth correspondent) that I have to record the death of Mrs. McDonnell, widow of the late Patrick McDonnell, who was killed at Runanga about four months ago. The deceased was the second daughter of Mrs. McKinley, and was only 28 years of age. Deceased was a noble woman, devoted to her children, and loved and respected by all. She was of a happy and bright disposition, and had a pleasant and encouraging word for all. Until the death of her husband she took a part in all matters for the good and enjoyment of the people of Runanga, and the many kindly actions performed will live to keep her memory dear. Many will lose a kind and sympathetic friend, and many will sincerely mourn the death of one so much beloved. The funeral took place on Saturday, November 23, when the Very Rev. Dean Carew officiated both at St. Patrick's Church and at the graveside.—R.I.P.

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