

## INVERCARGILL

(From our own correspondent.)

The celebration of St. Patrick's Day in Invercargill was an unqualified success. The weather was perfect, and as a consequence the Irish Athletic Society's twenty-third annual gathering attracted some 5000 people to the new Union grounds. The meeting was a record one in every way, over £200 being taken at the gates. The Irish Athletic Society needs no introduction to readers of the *Tablet*. In the course of a very lengthy and exhaustive report, the *Southland Times* says: 'It can be said without in any way overstepping the bounds of modesty that the Irish Society's meeting in Invercargill is, for cash sprinting events, the most important athletic fixture in the Dominion.' One of the most interesting events on the programme proved to be the Schools Relay Race of one mile, for teams from primary schools composed of four boys under 14 years of age. Seven of the Southland schools had entered teams for the race, which, the *Southland Times* says, 'aroused a tremendous amount of enthusiasm, the interest taken in the performance of the schoolboys being one of the features of the gathering.' The Marist Brothers' No. 1 team, which included P. Shepherd, T. Morris, J. Downey, and F. Graham, was successful. The green jerseys led from start to finish, each boy increasing the lead, the last one winning by nearly a lap. The prize was four gold medals and pennant, to be held by the school for the year. The Clifton School secured second place. This is the second year in succession that the Marist boys have held the pennant. During the afternoon the Hibernian Band played a choice selection of items. The most successful gathering ever held under the auspices of the Invercargill Irish Athletic Society terminated about 6 o'clock.

What the programmes described as a great Hibernian Night took place in the Victoria Hall on Wednesday evening. The proceedings took the form of a concert, to which the following contributed: Miss Violet McIntosh, A.T.C.L., sang 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' 'Allan water,' and 'Three fishers went sailing'; Miss Richards, 'Killarney' and 'Husheen'; Miss Kompton, 'Irish lullaby'; Mr. H. Richards, 'The devout lover'; Mr. Churton, 'To-morrow will be Friday' and 'The sweetest flower that grows'; Mr. D. Silvester, 'Off to Philadelphia' and 'When the ebb tide flows.' Mr. T. Pound recited 'Shiel's reply to Lord Lyndhurst,' and 'The game of life' as an encore, and Mr. J. Molloy contributed 'Fontenoy' in a spirited manner. The Hibernian Band opened up the programme with 'Melodies of old Ireland.' Miss Bonner and Mr. Robinson acted as accompanists during the evening. The proceedings were most enthusiastic, nearly every item being encored.

## LAWRENCE

The promoters and management of the entertainment given in the Town Hall on the evening of St. Patrick's Day are to be complimented on the success that attended their efforts (says the *Tuapeka Times*). The attendance was exceptionally large. Of the merits of the programme, which was wholly provided by a Dunedin operatic and concert company, we can only speak in the terms of highest praise, and we are sure that all present were well satisfied with the entertainment provided. The programme opened with the operetta, 'Sang Azure,' the principal characters in which were sustained by Mr. J. Hill, Miss N. Galloway, and Mr. R. A. Power. The second part opened with a short humorous speech by Mr. Carolin, followed by the singing of 'The low-back car.' An enthusiastic encore resulted, the singer responding with 'The wearin' of the green.' Mrs. R. A. Power, whose appearance was looked forward to with pleasureable anticipation, delighted the audience with a charming rendering of 'The mission of a rose,' and in response to a most enthusiastic encore sang 'A long time ago.' Later in the evening she was again rapturously applauded for her exquisite singing of the fine song 'There is a land,' responding to the inevitable encore with one of Clara Butt's favorites entitled 'Baby.' Mr. S. C. Lawson, who appeared for the first time before a Lawrence audience, made a very favorable impression with his singing of 'I'm sitting on the stile, Mary,' and in response to an encore gave 'The old plaid shawl.' Miss Lilian King created roars of laughter with her fine elocutionary effort, 'Reflections after a ball,' and was equally successful in her encore item. An Irish jig by Mr. Carolin, in substitution of the song set down for Mr. Thorley, who was unable to be present, was very neatly executed and apparently highly appreciated. Miss N. Galloway showed herself to be possessed of very high elocutionary gifts by her recitation entitled 'Oh, no.' In response to an undeniable demand for more, she was equally successful in 'His single hair.' The programme concluded with the comic operetta entitled 'John and

Angolina,' the characters in which were very ably sustained by Mr. J. Anthony, Miss C. Carter, and Mr. A. Griffiths, which, needless to say, kept the audience in a simmer of laughter from start to finish. At the conclusion the Very Rev. Monsignor O'Leary thanked the public for attending in such large numbers, and also the performers for the very excellent and enjoyable programme provided.

## NAPIER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 18.

A social gathering in honor of St. Patrick's Day was held in the Garrison Hall last evening, with the most successful results. The hall was nicely decorated with Irish flags and other national emblems. Excellent music was supplied by Miss McShane (piano), Herr Loech (violin), Messrs. W. Carver (cornet), and J. Madigan (bass). A capital supper was provided by the committee of ladies. Mr. T. Durney was secretary, and to him the success of the social was in a great manner due.

A most successful concert was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Taradale, on the evening of St. Patrick's Day. There was a large attendance. A programme of well-chosen items of an Irish national character was presented. The programme was as follows:—Songs, 'Norah, the pride of Kildare,' and 'Killarney,' Miss M. Higgins; 'The Minstrel boy' and 'A bowl of roses,' Miss Rae; 'Asthere' and 'Good-bye, Mavourneen,' Mr. F. P. Williams; 'Terence's farewell' and 'The dear little shamrock,' Mr. A. Mackie; 'Off to Philadelphia' and 'Father O'Flynn,' Mr. A. Medhurst; 'The harp that once' and 'The dear little girl,' Mr. F. O'Connor; comic songs, Mr. M. Treston. Mrs. Treston played a pianoforte solo, and Mr. J. Mullaney danced an Irish jig. Mrs. Treston and Miss Scott played the accompaniments. The proceeds were in aid of the school prize fund. On the motion of Rev. Father McDonnell, who presided, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the performers, and also to Mr. Frank O'Shannassey, who had acted as honorary secretary, and was largely responsible for the success of the concert.

## OBITUARY

## MR. DANIEL SHEEDY, GREYMOUTH.

The news of the death of Mr. Daniel Sheedy, which took place on March 14, came as a great shock to the whole of the community of the West Coast, where he had been a prominent figure in most public matters (says the *Greymouth Star*) since he arrived at Hokitika early in 1865. Mr. Sheedy was a native of Kilworth, County Cork, being born there in 1838. When the Victorian goldfields broke out he could not resist the temptation, and took ship for Melbourne, arriving there in 1859, when he worked on several goldfields till, on the Otago diggings breaking out, he went to the Dunstan and at Gabriel's Gully in 1861 he settled down. After spending four years there as a pioneer of that field, he came on to the West Coast. Soon after settling down in business in Greymouth he took an active part in public affairs. He was one of the promoters of the canvass for funds for a hospital, of which he was trustee until his death. He was a member of the Harbor Board for a number of years, and also of the Borough Council. He was an active member of the Hibernian Society and patron of the Catholic Club. The late Mr. Sheedy was a staunch Catholic, and at all times took an active interest in all matters pertaining to the Church. The deceased leaves a widow, two sons (Mr. E. M. Sheedy, of Greymouth, and Mr. Sheedy, resident in Western Australia) and four daughters (Mrs. Martin, widow of Mr. Martin, C.E.; Mrs. Quinn, Miss Kate Sheedy, and the Rev. Mother Cecil, of St. Mary's Convent, Christchurch). The funeral, which took place on March 16, was largely attended. Out of respect to the memory of deceased, all the business places in the town were closed during the two hours which the funeral obsequies occupied. The body was removed from the residence of the deceased to St. Patrick's Church, and a Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Dean Carew in the presence of a number of the friends and relatives of the deceased. In the afternoon the funeral cortege was formed, and was the most representative that has left that church since its erection. After the carriages containing the relatives came others in which were the Mayor and members of the Borough Council, the members of the Hospital Trustees, and other representative bodies of which Mr. Sheedy had been a member, and after these it would seem that every available vehicle in town was occupied, while a very large number walked in procession. The Very Rev. Dean Carew conducted the service both in the church and at the graveside. R.I.P.