

THE Wellington City Council have determined to borrow £60,000 for street improvement.

A SHIPMENT of maize consisting of upwards of 1800 sacks, was forwarded to Sydney from Gisborne on the last voyage of the *Mararoa*.

NEWS has come from the Chatham Islands that nine Maoris were drowned there last month whilst mutton-birding at one of the neighboring islands.

THE fruit gardens in the Teviot and Coal Creek districts are looking exceedingly well just now, and fruitgrowers, as far as they can at present judge, anticipate a bountiful crop, equal if not greater than previous seasons.

MR. SEFFERN, late editor of the *Taranaki Herald*, who is one of the oldest journalists in New Zealand, is reported to be dangerously ill. The Hon. W. T. Jennings, M.L.C., a near relative to Mr. Seffern, has been hastily summoned from Wellington to New Plymouth on account of that gentleman's condition.

'ALTHOUGH you have been freed from your debts by the Bankruptcy Court,' said District Judge Kettle in Masterton last week in discharging a bankrupt, 'you must remember that you still owe money, and this fact should be kept before your conscience.' The debtor promised that his conscience would be duly consulted.

A FATAL accident occurred on Saturday afternoon at a football match between the suburban teams, Kingsland and Mount Albert, Auckland. During the play a young man named Walter Chatwin came into violent collision with another player. Chatwin immediately ran off the field, and fell down in an unconscious state. Medical aid was summoned, but Chatwin died in 20 minutes from the effects of the shock.

THE Premier has received the following cablegram from the Agent General:—'Assured by the Imperial Post Office that on the 1st January the postage will be reduced to 1d the ½oz each way between New Zealand and all parts of the British Empire included in the penny scheme. Steps will be taken to notify the change to all British possessions concerned, as well as the Postal Union in due time.'

THE Very Rev. Father Dawson, late of St. Mary's Cathedral, Wellington, New Zealand (says the *Catholic Times*), has been appointed to the charge of the church at Ditton, diocese of Liverpool, which the Jesuit Fathers some time ago handed over to the Bishop. Father Dawson formerly worked in this diocese. His health failing, he went to New Zealand. We are glad to be able to state that his health has been fully restored and that he returns full of vigor.

It is understood that the Wellington City Council have completed arrangements for the purchase of the Miramar estate, subject to the consent of the ratepayers. A similar proposal was made some years ago, during Mr. Bell's mayoralty, but it was rejected by the ratepayers. The estate comprises a peninsula on which the forts are situated, near the heads, and is separated from Wellington by Evans' Bay. It is proposed to cut the greater portion of the estate into building allotments, and eventually to extend the electric tram service to the locality.

In connection with the running of the new San Francisco service every three weeks, and the cancelling of the present contract after the departure from Auckland of the *Mariposa* on the 29th inst. and the arrival of the *Moana* at Sydney about the 28th, there will be no outward despatch via San Francisco in November. Arrangements will be made to ensure a close connection with either the Federal or the Vancouver service next month. The Vancouver mail will leave Sydney on November 7. The regular running of the new San Francisco service is expected to begin on December 8.

AN appeal for subscriptions from the Carmelite Fathers, South Melbourne, to enable them to pay off the debt on their Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, appears in this issue. In writing to the Very Rev. Prior Kelly some time ago his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne said:—'Your mission at Port Melbourne, without the least fault or neglect on your part, is burdened with a very heavy debt. You are about to appeal to the clergy and people of the Archdiocese to help you to discharge the debt, at least in part, and to preserve untarnished both personal and corporate honor. I wish you every success in your appeal, and I recommend it to the generosity of the faithful.'

It will be remembered (writes our Napier correspondent) that on April 16 (Good Friday), 1898, a disastrous flood was experienced in this district, and that 10 leading residents of this town lost their lives whilst endeavoring to save the people of Clive on that memorable night. The citizens of Napier have not proved unmindful of such a heroic sacrifice. A splendid monument, 36 feet high, standing on a base 19 feet wide, erected on the Marine Parade, was unveiled on the 6th of last month in their honor. It is not too much to say that for design and finish this beautiful memorial would do credit to any city in the Australasian colonies. The speakers on the occasion were his Worship the Mayor (H. G. Swan), the Very Rev. Dean Grogan and Dean Howell, and Bishop Williams. The monument is quite an ornament to the town and reflects great credit on the Mayor and Corporation.

DR. MACKIN of Wellington, (says a London correspondent) is back again in London, looking the picture of health, after a month's delightful touring in Ireland with his wife, which was unfortunately brought to a close by the receipt of the news of his mother's death, at the ripe old age of 81. To outline the doctor's tour would be to list the names of almost every place of importance twist Giant's Causeway and Cape Clear, but he seems to have enjoyed Dublin and environs and Killarney more than any other place. The scenery around Killarney charmed him, but, in his view, is not to be compared with some of the New Zealand West Coast bits—

a statement I have heard from other patriotic colonists. A disappointment to the doctor was the almost entire absence of the beggars who until recently were the plagues of Killarney. Dr. Mackin is now hard at work at the West London Hospital, the post graduate course at which draws medics from all parts of the world. He spends the morning studying there, and in the afternoons visits the big London institutions, where many a valuable wrinkle in medicine and surgery is to be picked up by those who know the way to go about it.

In the Legislative Council on Thursday (says the *New Zealand Times*), the Hon. Dr. Grace made an effort to secure the status of convent schools like St. Joseph's, Wellington, by moving the recommitment of the Private Industrial Schools Regulation and Industrial Schools Act Amendment Bill for the purpose of reinstating the words 'as aforesaid,' which were deleted on the previous day. As will be seen from a full report elsewhere, Dr. Grace made an excellent speech, by which he demonstrated the unreasonableness of the proposal contained in the Bill, and pointed out the hardships that would follow the passage of the Bill. St. Joseph's Orphanage, of Wellington, and kindred institutions for the upbringing of orphan girls would be sacrificed. This was needless, as it was generally admitted that these institutions were doing admirable and praiseworthy work. Dr. Grace was of opinion that the Bill would do an injury to the cause of these children. Hon. Colonel Pitt, Twomey, Reeves, Jones, Bowen and Bonar concurred in heaping encomiums on the work of convent schools. Hon. C. C. Bowen said Magistrates were always glad to take advantage of sending children, especially girls, to these places. The State, however, had, he said, no right to hand anyone over to the control of any person or institution who was not under the control of the State. Dr. Grace's motion was lost on a division by one vote.

THE Very Rev. Dean Mahoney announces that the following new appointments have been made to the staff of St. Mary's Industrial School, Nelson:—Master and matron (salary £150 per annum): Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, at present attendants at Sea View Asylum, Hokitika. They have testimonials of a high order of merit and efficiency from the superintendent, Mr. Gribben, the medical officers and the Mayor of Hokitika. Assistant masters (£75 a year each): Mr. W. L. Beech, at present assistant teacher at the Ohio State school, Wellington; and Mr. F. J. Mulvihill, at present teacher at the Thames. The former has testimonials from the Inspectors, head teachers, and school committees, Wellington; the latter has testimonials from clerical and lay gentlemen at Thames. Farm manager (£100 a year): Mr. D. Hight, at present foreman for Mr. David McMillan, 'Beechcroft,' Southbridge, Canterbury. Mr. Hight, has excellent credentials from past and present employers. Gardener (£75 a year): Mr. P. O'Brien, formerly of Charleston. A female cook (at £40 a year): Miss Rowlands, of Dunedin, at present cook at Benevolent Home, Caversham, where she has had five years' experience. Three female servants (each at £30 a year) have also been appointed. The positions of farm hands, tailor, and baker will be filled by past inmates of the school. Free board and lodging is provided in each case. The new staff took over the management on Monday last.

A VERY enjoyable social gathering was held at the Sea View Asylum last evening (says the *West Coast Times*, October 9) when the Superintendent and attendants with a few friends assembled in the large hall of the institution to bid farewell to Mr. W. Fitzgerald and his wife on the eve of their departure for Nelson to take up the duties of master and matron of the Stoke Orphanage. Mr. Gribben, Superintendent, in a few chosen words made known the reason of the assembly and in bidding Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald farewell eulogized their services and characters while under his control and in wishing them God speed expressed his confidence in their ability to carry out their new duties. Dr. Macandrew and Messrs. Sellars, McCulloch and Hanrahan also spoke in the highest terms of Mr. Fitzgerald who had been so long associated with them, thus showing the good fellowship which has existed amongst them. Mr. Downey, chief attendant, on behalf of himself and colleagues, presented Mr. Fitzgerald with a suitable present by which to remember his old comrades at Sea View. Mr. Fitzgerald, on behalf of himself and Mrs. Fitzgerald thanked one and all for their kindness and good wishes and expressed his determination to do his duty in his new sphere and said if he would be half as successful as he was at Sea View he would be satisfied. A very pleasant evening interspersed with songs and dances and a nice little supper prepared by the lady attendants was brought to a conclusion by the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and the giving of three hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald.

Wanted, about 50 clerks to help read testimonials *re* Tussicour, Sole manufacturer, S. J. Evans, 2s 6d.—* *

Tussicour, the wonderful cough remedy—sold by all chemists and grocers.—* *

MR. P. LUNDON, Phoenix Chambers, Wanganui, is still busy putting people on the soil. He has also hotels in town and country For Sale and To Lease. Write to him.—* *

The enormous output of McCormick machines defies the mental grasp of man. If the machines they manufacture were to issue from the gates of their works (the largest in the world), the spectators would see throughout the working day a McCormick machine emerging at full gallop every thirty seconds.—* *

A shipment of the beautiful Sterling Bicycles—chain, chainless, and free wheels—has just been received. They are more beautiful, if possible, than ever. Intending purchasers of bicycles should certainly see the Sterlings before deciding on any other. Morrow, Basset and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, sole agents.—* *