

## People We Hear About

Now that the Earl of Wemyss has passed away, the distinction of being the oldest peer in the House of Lords falls upon the Duke of Grafton, who just recently entered his 94th year. The Earl of Courtown comes next at 91, while Lord Armistead will be 90 this year. In quick succession come the veteran Lord Halsbury and the Marquess of Abergavenny. The Father of the House is the Earl of Ducie, who has been a member for sixty-one years.

The eminent tenor, Signor Caruso, in a recent interview in Vienna said that nothing prevented his singing every night except his nervousness. His voice was quite capable of the effort, but his nerves would break down under the strain. Although he never sings a role without studying it for a year, he is always timid and nervous when the time comes for going on the stage. The 300th time that he sang in 'Rigoletto' he trembled in his dressing-room when preparing to appear. Signor Caruso stated that he was ready to retire the instant he found the public sparing in their applause or if his nervousness developed to an excessive degree. 'I will not publish my memoirs,' he said, 'but will devote myself to agriculture.'

Probably among living British admirals (says *Truth*), Sir John Jellicoe is the last the Germans would have desired to see in supreme command against them. There is a story in the Service which has never, so far as I know, been given to the outside world, about an official visit which he once paid to Germany. A friendly call at Wilhelmshaven was decided on, and the German Government was notified in the usual way. At about the time the squadron was expected to arrive a German cruiser was despatched to pilot it in. She steamed a long way into the North Sea, but, meeting nobody, turned and steamed back. On her return to Wilhelmshaven she found the British squadron comfortably at anchor inside.

The *Monitor*, says that San Francisco paper, takes especial pleasure in chronicling the appointment of Hon. Matt J. Sullivan to the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of California. The appointment was made by his Excellency Governor Hiram W. Johnson, on Tuesday, August 18, and the acceptance by Mr. Sullivan was received on the afternoon of the same day. The appointment became effective immediately. Chief Justice Sullivan is one of the most prominent Catholics and one of the most able and distinguished lawyers in the West. He is held in the highest esteem in all parts of California. Chief Justice Sullivan is dean of the law department of the University of St. Ignatius and a member of the commission appointed by Governor Johnson to administer the fund of 5,000,000 dollars appropriated by the State of California for the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

Quite a number of ladies have sacrificed wealth, rank, and title in order to enter convents and devote themselves to charitable work. At the beginning of the year it was announced that Julia Lady Lyveden had been received as a novice in the Convent of Poor Clares at Edinburgh. The Poor Clares is one of the most severe and exacting Orders in the world. Some time ago, too, it was announced that Lady Baud Barrett, second daughter of the late Earl of Cavan, was about to enter a Sisterhood and cut herself off from the outside world for life; while in 1912 Lady Mary Catherine Ashburnham entered the Sacred Heart Convent at Roehampton, an Order which devotes itself chiefly to the education of children. But this does not complete the list of ladies belonging to the British aristocracy who have become nuns. No fewer than four of the Duchess of Norfolk's aunts are in convents, while the Duke has one sister in the Carmelite Order, and another a Sister of Charity. Two daughters of the late Lord Russell of Killowen are in the Convent of the Holy Child at Mayfield, Sussex, while Lord Petre, Lord Albemarle, and Lord Denbigh have sisters nuns.

## Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

In response to the very urgent appeal of the Rev. Father O'Donnell to his congregations to subscribe liberally to the relief fund for the poor of Great Britain, Ireland, and Belgium, the handsome sum of £214 8s 3d was collected at the services on Sunday last.

Prior to taking his departure from Ashburton to join the service of the Railway Department at Lyttelton, Mr. Alfred Lennon was the recipient of presentations from his Ashburton friends, also from the staff of his late fellow-workers at the local branch of the N.Z. Farmers' Co-operative Association. Mr. Lennon was one of our most prominent young men in the Catholic Club, and his departure is a distinct loss to the club.

One of Ashburton's oldest inhabitants, in the person of Mr. James Lennon, passed peacefully away at his son's residence on Saturday, October 10, at the ripe old age of 90 years. The late Mr. Lennon arrived in New Zealand by the Empress of India in 1877. The deceased spent most of his time in New Zealand about the Ashburton County. Two sons (Mr. Patrick and Mr. William Lennon) are left to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

The annual meeting of the St. Mary's Tennis Club was presided over by Mr. S. Madden (president). The report and balance sheet—which showed the club to be in a good position financially and otherwise—was adopted as read. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—Patron, Rev. Father J. J. O'Donnell (re-elected); president, Mr. S. Madden; vice-presidents—Rev. Dr. J. A. Kennedy, and Messrs. F. J. Holley, W. J. Cunningham, D. McDonnell, J. Farrell, M. Kissane, M. J. Burgess, T. Buckley, J. McQuilkin, R. Nealon, T. Staunton, E. McSherry, P. Devane, H. P. Madden, and P. Kelleher; captain, Mr. T. Purcell (re-elected); vice-captain, Mr. H. Walsh; treasurer, Mr. T. M. Brophy; hon. secretary, Mr. C. J. Hannigan; committee—Mrs. McCormick, and the Misses Fitzgerald and McSherry, and Messrs. J. McCormick, F. Brophy, and V. Madden; auditor, Mr. W. J. Cunningham. Votes of thanks to the chair and to the outgoing officers concluded the meeting.

The annual banquet of the Catholic Young Men's Club drew a large attendance of members, Mr. J. A. Lennon (president) occupying the chair. The arrangements for the banquet left nothing to be desired, and the proceedings from start to finish were marked with the greatest enthusiasm. The following toast-list was gone through: 'The Pope and King'; 'Kindred Societies,' proposed by Mr. F. K. Cooper and responded to by Messrs. F. Brophy (Hibernian Society) and T. Purcell (Tennis Club); 'The Clergy' (Mr. S. Madden and Rev. Father J. J. O'Donnell); 'Army and Navy' (Rev. Father O'Donnell and Mr. T. M. Brophy); Ireland—a Nation (Mr. D. McDonnell); 'Past Presidents' (proposed by the president and acknowledged by Messrs. W. J. Cunningham and D. McDonnell); 'The Press' (Mr. E. McSherry and Mr. J. A. Sheridan); 'The Ladies' (Mr. R. Nealon, sen., and Mr. V. Madden); 'The President' (Mr. M. J. Burgess). The following contributed to a musical programme: Songs, Miss Hicks, Messrs. D. J. McDonald, W. J. Cunningham, V. Madden, M. J. Burgess, T. M. Brophy; recitations, Mr. F. K. Cooper and Mr. J. A. Lennon. Mrs. D. Crow played the accompaniments. The singing of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a successful conclusion.

The Addington Catholic school children held their annual picnic at Corsair Bay on last Wednesday week. The weather was perfect, and a very enjoyable day was spent.

What is fame? It is a vapor. What is popularity? An accident. What is riches? Something that may take wings at any moment. Those who cheer to-day will revile to-morrow—only one thing endures unto eternity—character.