

The following statement of accounts will show the position of the institution up to June 30:—
 Money received—Honorary members, £20 6s; donations, £38 12s 6d; club members' fees, £11; household receipts—board, etc., £70 9s 6d; social gatherings, £19 4s 6d; sundries, 8s 3d;—total, £160 0s 9d. Money expended—Furniture account, £28 7s; household expenses, £42 16s 6d; rent, salaries, £37 5s 6d; stamps and stationery, £2 17s 6d; social expenses, £7 6s; cash at bank, £41 8s 3d;—total, £160 0s 9d.

Luncheon is supplied at the cost of 6d to members, and many Catholic girls are availing themselves of the opportunity of taking their mid-day meal there, and it is pleasing to note the number of Catholics who have made use of the club's facilities during its brief existence.

Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., spoke on the excellence of the work of the hostel as revealed by the excellent report just read. Mr. J. P. Leigh (Timaru) also warmly congratulated all concerned on the inauguration of a movement, the benefits of which had been already abundantly shown.

The report of the executive committee and balance sheet, showing the number of enrolments for the six months from 46 branches to be 2028, the cash receipts from all sources £113 9s 10d, and disbursements £113 11s 1d, were unanimously adopted.

Returns were received at the meeting from eight other branches with payments totalling over £40.

The report of the Catholic Girls' Club and Hostel was also unanimously adopted, and the following resolution passed:—That this meeting places on record its appreciation of the excellent work done by the ladies' committee in establishing the Catholic Girls' Club and Hostel, and appoints the Diocesan Council Executive an advisory committee to that institution.

Satisfactory reports were given by representatives of the branches present, and by the secretary of branches not represented.

In a communication received from the secretary of the Greymouth branch, the difficulty was shown in regard to Westland being directly represented at the meetings of the Diocesan Council, owing to the great distance to be travelled, the consequent inevitable loss of time, and expense. The Rev. Father Cronin (Ross) most forcibly emphasised the point, stating that if the Federation was to progress in Westland, a separate provincial or district council only would save the situation. This view appeared to be generally shared in by the meeting, and the following resolution was adopted:—That it be a recommendation from this Diocesan Council, through its delegates, to the Dominion Council, to fully discuss the subject at the annual meeting of the latter body with a view of having Westland constituted a sub-diocesan, provincial, or district council, the financial details to be re-arranged to meet requirements.

The Very Rev. Dean Hyland (Rangiora) accepted the position of president of the Diocesan Council, and the following officers were elected:—Vice-presidents—Dr. Loughman (Timaru), Mr. W. Hayward, jun. (Christchurch), Mr. J. E. Doolan (Lyttelton); secretary, Mr. J. J. Wilson (re-elected); treasurer, Mr. M. Garty (re-elected). Mr. J. R. Hayward and Mr. E. Wall were elected members of the executive committee, which it was decided should consist of nine members, the Very Rev. Dean Hills (St. Mary's), and Very Rev. Father Price, Adm. (Cathedral) being members *ex-officio*.

The conference adjourned at 12.30 p.m., the clergy and delegates being entertained at luncheon at the Excelsior Hotel as guests of the two city branches of the Federation. Resuming at 2 o'clock the consideration of a large amount of newly introduced business ensued.

Mr. J. R. Hayward spoke at considerable length on a proposal he desired to have adopted and submitted to the Dominion Council. This occasioned a spirited discussion, and on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Kennedy it was decided that inquiries be made by the executive on the scheme propounded by Mr. Hayward. The result to assume the form of a remit to be submitted to the Dominion Council by the Christchurch Diocesan Council delegates.

At half-past four afternoon-tea was served by ladies of the Cathedral branch, assisted by one from St. Mary's, and at the conclusion of the business then in hand an adjournment was made till 6.45 p.m. On re-assembling, the remits on the agenda paper received attention. The first, in slightly different form, was moved by Timaru, St. Mary's, and Addington branches, and had reference to a suggested alteration of rule 6. The discussion on the subject resolved itself into a comparison of the difficulties encountered by country branches in sparsely populated districts in keeping the parish committees up to the present numerical strength, and the facilities afforded city branches to increase that number. After Mr. J. P. Leigh (Timaru), Mr. G. Getson (Addington), Mr. E. J. P. Wall (St. Mary's), Mr. F. J. Ryan (Lincoln), Mr. S. Ryan (Rangiora), Mr. W. Hayward (Christchurch), and Mr. Crowley (Timaru) had spoken, a motion was proposed by Mr. J. R. Hayward (Christchurch), seconded by Mr. S. Ryan (Rangiora), recommending the Dominion Council to make provision for parish committees to keep up its numerical strength by filling vacancies from among the parishioners.

The next remit (Timaru) was as follows:—That it is desirable to consider the advisability of amending the constitution in order to replace the Diocesan Councils by a system of direct representation of parish committees (on a numerical strength basis) on the Dominion Council, and that the meeting of the Dominion Council be held in rotation in the four chief centres. This was spoken on by Mr. Crowley (Timaru), Mr. R. T. Batchelor (St. Andrews), Mr. J. E. Doolan (Lyttelton), and Mr. J. R. Hayward (who strongly opposed the remit). Rev. Dr. Kennedy moved, and the Rev. Father Graham, M.S.H., seconded a motion that consideration of the subject be deferred, which was carried.

Mr. E. J. P. Wall (St. Mary's) moved that provision be made in the rules making it compulsory for all members of Catholic societies or clubs to be financial members of the Federation, before being entitled to representation.

Mr. A. J. Ormandy (St. Mary's) and Mr. Getson (Addington) supported the motion. Mr. J. P. Leigh (Timaru) also supported it on the broad principle, but was opposed to exacting that every member of a society should be a financial member of the Federation. He advocated 75 per cent. as a fair proportion. Rev. Father Kerley, S.M. (Temuka), spoke only on the percentage quota, advocating that 50 per cent. only should be exacted. This he proposed as an amendment, which was seconded by Mr. J. R. Hayward. It was then adopted as part of the motion, and carried.

Mr. E. J. P. Wall moved as a remit from St. Mary's:—That rule 10 (clause (a), page 7, be amended by inserting the following words, after the words "electing body":—"excepting delegates to the Diocesan Council who may be elected not later than one month prior to a Diocesan Council meeting." This was seconded by Mr. A. J. Ormandy. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy moved, and Rev. Father Graham, M.S.H., seconded an amendment, that the remit was unnecessary. The amendment was carried.

Mr. Crowley (Timaru) moved:—That as the Minister of Education approved of scholarships being taken

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