

he had done, banished himself to Iona in expiation of his crime against his country.

The terms of the proposed temporary settlement having been made impossible, it was smashed by John Redmond as he had promised. The Irish leader's conduct of the case was masterly, as the decision of the Ulster Conference was statesmanlike. For my part I have seen no reason to change my opinion regarding that decision, believing with honest Sancho in Cervantes' masterpiece that 'when they give you a heifer make haste with the rope; and when good fortune comes be sure to take her in.' Meantime there is no reason to be downhearted.

'Wise men ne'er wail their present woes,
But presently prevent the ways to wail.'

Ireland is not in such a parlous state. She remains the same splendid island that she always was: the sun shining on her fertile fields ripening a plentiful harvest; there is ample employment for her people; thanks to the Irish Party there is no Conscription; thanks to the British Government there is no emigration: she will thus at the end of the war have a largely increased population to enjoy the blessings of Self-Government. Let Irishmen, then, raise up their hearts, exclude whimsies from their brains, set their faces resolutely against faction, and stand shoulder to shoulder.

ST. BENEDICT'S CLUB, AUCKLAND

The half-yearly meeting of the above club was held on October 22, the president (Mr. F. G. J. Tenn) presiding over a good attendance of members. The secretary's report was adopted, this giving the members an opportunity to congratulate the outgoing officers on the remarkable success of the term. The report, in part, was as follows:—The attendance at the clubrooms has improved considerably and more interest in club's activities has been shown by a number of the members who had seemingly lost all interest. The roll shows a grand total of 125, of whom 35 are serving their King and Country on active service. Several functions have been held, including a breakfast following a general Communion of members, at which visitors from other clubs and societies were also present. Several socials were held in the clubroom, one of which was tendered to the Children of Mary Sodality, in recognition of their assistance at various functions of the club. The weekly socials have been a remarkable success, both socially and financially. The financial statement for the five months ending September 30, shows that the term was commenced with a debt of nearly £70, and the position at that date was—cash in bank and hand, roughly £40: against which there were current accounts totalling £21, thus showing a credit balance of £19, and this after £31 5s had been paid for the plastering of the outer walls of the club. A Roll of Honor to contain the names of those members past and present who have gone forward to assist the Nation in its fight for liberty, is being prepared. This contains 38 names and will shortly be added to, as several members who have enlisted are waiting to be called up. Several have been wounded, while two (D. B. Campbell and W. Corlieson) have made the supreme sacrifice. The literary and debating branch showed some activity during the term, but it is to be regretted that counter attractions have greatly interfered with the work of this branch. Two inter-club debates were held with the Sacred Heart Club, and both were won by your representatives. A dramatic branch has, thanks to Mr. O'Malley, been inaugurated, and a mock court in the form of a breach of promise case is being rehearsed. The formation of a junior club is probably the most important step the club has taken for some time. This was initiated on the proposal of Mr. Little, of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and, thanks to the Marist Fathers, who recently conducted a mission in the parish, and to our zealous chaplain (Rev. Father Bleakley), the junior branch has become an established fact, and members are asked to assist in the building up of

this branch, as it is from this source the future senior membership will come. The thanks of the members are especially due to Rev. Father Bleakley for the interest he has shown in the club, and especially in the debating branch; to Mr. W. Williams, for his constant attention to the duties of custodian and the way he has looked after the club's interests generally, for some considerable time undertaking the cleaning of the rooms; to Mr. D. Slade, for the way he has safeguarded the interests of the club at the door in connection with the weekly socials. In conclusion, members are urged to continue the present standard of interest and to assist the incoming executive to make the next term as successful as the past.

The balance sheet showed the assets to be £129 in excess of liabilities, the retiring treasurer (Mr. A. Williams) being heartily thanked for the healthy position. It was decided to spend up to £15 on extra fittings for the gymnasium, so as to make it more attractive for the members of the junior branch, who are showing so much keenness. Electric light is to be installed and tenders will be submitted at the next meeting of the executive. A cricket team, to consist principally of members of the junior branch, is to be entered in the association competition.

The election of officers for the ensuing half-year was as follows:—President, Mr. L. O'Malley; vice-president, Mr. P. J. McCabe (re-elected); hon. secretary, Mr. C. B. Reid (re-elected); hon. assistant secretary, Mr. P. Treacy; hon. treasurer, Mr. P. A. Jennings; hon. librarian, Mr. J. G. Foy; hon. custodians, Messrs. A. Wigg and J. Connell.

Several members have recently enlisted, some having already left, while at least three go into camp with the 23rd Reinforcements. F. J. Foreman, an old and popular member, sailed with the 18th; P. J. Foy is in the 19th, H. E. Reid with the 20th, and D. J. Roe, E. Owens, and J. Towns expect to leave with the next draft.

Waimate

(From our own correspondent.)

October 30.

Rev. Father Aubry is at present on a holiday visit to Dunedin. Rev. Father Quinn is acting as parish priest during his absence.

A special meeting of the Catholic Federation was held after devotions on Sunday evening for the purpose of electing two official delegates to represent the parish at the Catholic congress to be held in Christchurch on November 9, Messrs. M. Leonard and M. Lyons being appointed.

A social was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Wednesday evening, October 25, in aid of the Waimate candidate for Queen of the Carnival (Miss Alice Jones). Although the weather was not very favorable, the attendance was fair, and those present spent a most enjoyable time.

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