

anti-Catholic press. All that they did was to split the Catholic population into two acrimonious factions.

In 1905 a few Catholics became aware of the fact that this policy was suicidal. They held a great meeting in Vienna, and resolved to forget their feud and to support the two existing newspapers in Vienna, and the other Catholic papers in the provinces. 'Keep your politics if you will,' they said. 'For the sake of your Catholicism we will support you both.' That great association, the *Piusverein*, was founded—named after the present Pope, who sent a brief of encouragement. To-day it numbers over 100,000 members, each paying a small annual subscription. Catholic newspapers are subsidised impartially, and their circulation has gone up by leaps and bounds. They are now a great power in the country. Each goes on its own political line without interference. But all are helped by Catholics for the sake of their Catholicism.

I regard that incident as a noble and generous manifestation of the Catholic spirit. Sink political differences, foster the Catholic spirit, and go forward inspired by faith and enthusiasm for the great cause.

Surnames in Ireland

A special report on surnames in Ireland by Sir Robert E. Matheson, Registrar-General for Ireland, has been re-issued. It was originally published as an appendix to the twenty-ninth annual report of the Registrar-General for Ireland. It has been for some years out of print.

The consideration of the subject is divided as follows: (1) The principal surnames in Ireland compared with other portions of the United Kingdom; (2) the derivation of surnames in Ireland; (3) surnames in Ireland ethnologically considered; (4) the local distribution of surnames in Ireland.

In reference to the principal surnames in Ireland compared with those of other portions of the United Kingdom, the tables given in the report show that the name 'Murphy' stands first in Ireland, in order of numerical strength, representing an estimated number of 62,600 persons (or 13.3 per thousand of the population), and that in both England and Scotland the name 'Smith' occupies the first place.

The second place on the Irish list is held by the name 'Kelly,' representing 55,900 persons (or 11.3 per thousand of the population). In the English tables 'Jones' has the second place. In Scotland the second place is held by 'McDonald.'

The third place in Ireland is filled by 'Sullivan,' the number of persons of which name, it is estimated amounts to 43,000 (or 9.2 per thousand). In England 'Williams' is the third name. In Scotland 'Brown' stands third.

Several names among the first fifty on the Irish list appear on the lists for one or both of the other divisions of the Kingdom. Thus 'Smith' is fifth in Ireland and first in England and Scotland; 'Murray' is eighteenth in Ireland and 17th in Scotland; 'Moore' is 20th in Ireland and 39th in England; 'Wilson' is 26th in Ireland, 11th in England, and 8th in Scotland; 'Campbell' is 31st in Ireland and 7th in Scotland; 'Clarke' (or 'Clark') is 32nd in Ireland; ninth in England, and 18th in Scotland; 'Johnson' appears 33rd in Ireland and 16th in Scotland; 'Hughes' appears 34th in Ireland and 19th in England; 'Brown' is 37th in Ireland, sixth in England, and third in Scotland; 'Martin' is 33rd in Ireland, 31st in England, and 48th in Scotland; 'Thompson' or 'Thomson' is 42nd in Ireland, 15th in England, and fourth in Scotland; 'White' is 50th in Ireland, 22nd in England, and 41st in Scotland.

It is observable from the tables that among the second fifty names on the list several appear in the first fifty of England or Scotland. Thus 'Stewart' is 58th in Ireland and sixth in Scotland; 'Robinson' 73rd in Ireland and 12th in England; 'Ward' 78th in Ireland and 30th in England; 'Reid' 81st in Ireland and 13th in Scotland; 'Graham' 82nd in Ireland and 40th in Scotland; 'King' 86th in Ireland and 36th in England; 'Bell' 89th in Ireland and 47th in Scotland; 'Scott' 90th in Ireland and 10th in Scotland, and 'McDonald,' which is 95th in Ireland, is second in Scotland.

The report shows, however, that most of the names in Ireland with the larger numbers are peculiar to Ireland, representing the names of Irish clans and septs, such as the Murphys, Kellys, Sullivans, O'Briens, Byrnes, Ryans, Connors, O'Neills, Reillys, Doyleys, McCarthys, Gallaghers, Dohertys, etc. The Scotch clans are similarly represented in the list for Scotland, such as the McDonalds, McKenzies, McGregors, McLeods, McKays, Campbells, Stewarts, Camerons, etc.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to March 23 being a public holiday in Otago, we will have to go to press with our next issue on March 22, consequently correspondence should reach this office on Monday morning.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

March 12.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's Church, Boulcott street, on Sunday from the last Mass till Vespers.

Messrs. J. J. Devine, J. E. Fitzgerald, M. J. Reardon, and Dr. E. Borghetti have been nominated as candidates for seats on the new Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. The election will take place next Wednesday. Electors in the Wellington City, Karori, and Miramar area are entitled to record their votes.

The Wellington Catholic Club's cricket team journeyed to Porirua on Saturday afternoon to play the local team, and, after a very exciting and close finish, they were defeated by 2 runs. The Catholic Club compiled 91 and Porirua 93 runs. For the losers J. McGrath made 25, Warne 23, and Leydon 12. Warne bowled splendidly, securing four wickets for 19.

On Tuesday evening at St. Mary's presbytery a meeting of the ladies and gentlemen who took part in the recent social gathering in aid of the funds of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held, when the balance sheet was read, showing a credit of £95, which has been placed to the funds of the Particular Council for the benefit of any of the Conferences who are in want of money.

On Monday night at the Sailors' Rest there was a large audience of seafaring men and their friends, who thoroughly enjoyed the concert which was given under the auspices of the St. Patrick's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The programme submitted was highly appreciated, items being contributed by Misses E. Bowden, A. and M. Frith, Hamilton, Nugent, Wilson, and Messrs. J. Baird, F. Cooze, H. Elmore, J. Lansdowne, M. O'Kane, E. Walshe, and L. Wilson. The accompaniments were played by Misses Bowden, Duprey, and Frith.

At the usual weekly meeting of the St. Vincent's Guild, held on Friday evening in St. Patrick's Hall, there was a full attendance of boys. Three new members gave in their names for enrolment. A Rugby football club has been formed, the following being appointed as officers:—Secretary, Master W. Sringeur; managing committee, Masters J. Coleman, T. Devine, J. Devlin, E. Jepson, and T. McGrath (coach). Mr. Louis Sievers and Master Arthur Sievers won the medal for swimming (50 yards) at Te Aro Baths in the match among the boys.

On Sunday, March 6, the members of the men's branch of the Sacred Heart Association and the St. Aloysius' Boys' Club approached the Holy Table at 7.30 o'clock Mass. There was a very large gathering, including 63 boys belonging to the club. In the evening the Rev. Father Byrne, of Brisbane, gave an instructive sermon on the works of charity a Catholic should undertake. He said that he was very much impressed with the number of men and boys who received Holy Communion in the morning, the sight being a very edifying one. Anyone could judge the conditions of the district by seeing such a gathering.

An interesting ceremony took place at the last monthly meeting of the Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society held in St. Mary's presbytery, Boulcott street, when the presidents of the various Conferences received each a relic. These relics were given the president of the Superior Council (Bro. L. F. Heydon) last year at the jubilee celebrations in Rome, for the presidents of the St. Vincent de Paul Conferences in Australasia. There were present Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Rev. Fathers Clancy and Venning, and all the presidents and vice-presidents of the city Conferences. Very Rev. Father O'Shea (spiritual director of the Particular Council) explained in a few words the teaching of the Church on relics.

A special meeting was held at Mr. D. Burke's residence, Brooklyn, last Wednesday night to found a Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in that district. The members of the Particular Council and also Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., and Rev. Father C. J. Venning, S.M., were present. The objects of the society were explained by Fathers O'Shea and Venning. This Conference commences with an active membership of ten. Very Rev. Father O'Shea was elected a member of honor, while Father Venning is the spiritual director. The following are the officers of the newly-formed Conference:—President, Mr. L. T. Reichel; vice-president, Mr. T. Fouhy; secretary, Mr. Jas. Monahan; treasurer, Mr. John Thorburn.

It is with sincere regret that I have to record the death of Mr. Eugene Patrick McArdle, eldest son of the late Mr. Owen McArdle, which took place at his mother's residence, Onslow terrace, Wellington, on March 6, at the age of 24 years. The deceased had been in poor health for the past year. He was educated at St. Patrick's College; afterwards studied dentistry, completing his course at Philadelphia, U.S.A., returning to Wellington two years ago. He was a most exemplary Catholic, being a member of the

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