

CATHOLIC CLUBS

HOKITIKA.

(From the club correspondent.)

Another of the series of euchre tournaments, under the auspices of the club, was held last Tuesday evening, and proved very successful. Miss A. Leamy and Mr. H. Harker accounted for the winning prizes. Light refreshments were dispensed by the ladies' committee.

On last Thursday evening the first inter-club debate yet held in the rooms took place between teams representing the St. Columba Club (Greymouth) and our own. The subject discussed was, 'Is a constitutional monarchy preferable to the republican form of government?' The affirmative was championed by the local team, consisting of Messrs. Daly (leader), Wormington, Warren, Cox, and Hanrahan, while the negative side was taken by the visitors, whose representatives were Messrs. Moriarty (leader), McSherry, Keenan, Carmine, and Keating. The debate proved very instructive and interesting. Rev. Fathers Clancy and Lacroix (Greymouth) acted as judges, and at the conclusion gave their verdict in favor of the visitors by the narrow margin of five points, their score being 76 against 71 points. The visitors were entertained at supper by the local club, and a very pleasant hour was spent. Songs were given by Rev. Father Lacroix, Messrs. Holt, Ralfe, Hanrahan, Clements, Downey, and Cox; recitations by Messrs. Keenan, Moriarty, Keating, and Toohey. Mr. J. Clements presided at the piano.

During the week a number of the club members journeyed to Kanieri to play a billiard match with a team from that township. Out of ten games played, our representatives only succeeded in winning two.

BLLENHEIM.

(From the club correspondent.)

July 2.

The Blenheim Catholic Club held their annual meeting during the week, and have commenced a fresh term with a strong executive. Rev. Father Hills, speaking at Mass at St. Mary's yesterday, urged the parishioners to give their practical support to the club, so as to place it on a firm footing. The following officers were elected:—Patron, Rev. Father Hills; president, Rev. Father McDonald; spiritual director, Rev. Father O'Sullivan; vice-president, Mr. P. O'Sullivan; treasurer, Mr. Jarvis; committee, Messrs. J. O'Halloran, D. W. O'Dwyer, J. Lawry; secretary, Mr. W. O'Neill. With such an energetic executive, the club should have a most successful year.

July 15.

The Catholic Club has taken a firm hold on the young men of the parish, and under its president (Rev. Father McDonald) three meetings a week are held. A very pleasant time was spent in the club rooms on Thursday evening when the debating class held its weekly meeting. There were about sixteen members present, and Rev. Father McDonald presided. The subject for debate was: 'Should the art of boxing be acquired by our young men?' Mr. J. Lawry and Mr. G. Harris took the affirmative, and Mr. P. O'Sullivan and W. Jarvis the negative side. The subject was very ably debated. Rev. Father McDonald congratulated the speakers on both sides on the able manner in which they dealt with the subject. On being put to the vote the affirmative side was declared the winner.

WELLINGTON.

(From the club correspondent.)

On June 29, members of St. Anne's Catholic Club (Wellington South) and the Wellington Catholic Club foregathered in St. Patrick's Hall for an inter-club reunion and games' tournament. The rooms were comfortably filled by members of both clubs. Mr. J. McGowan (vice-president) extended a cordial greeting to the members of St. Anne's Club, and intimated that proceedings would be enlivened by several items by

artists in the forefront in the musical world (per gramophone). Mr. J. Parker, of the Dresden Piano Company, manipulated the instrument, and delighted all present with an excellent series of records. Rev. Father Ainsworth, S.M., addressed the members and pointed out the advantages to be derived from inter-club reunions. Refreshments were partaken of, and enjoyable items towards the evening's programme were rendered by Messrs. Lambert, C. Pfaff, Keaney, and McErlean. Before dispersing, Mr. Guise (president of St. Anne's Club) conveyed the appreciation of the visiting members for the pleasant evening spent, and trusted that honors in the games' tournament would be reversed at their return reunion to be held in a few weeks' time.

At the weekly meeting of the Literary and Debating Society, held in the club rooms on July 4, the subject debated was: 'That Capital Punishment be Abolished.' Mr. Gerald Dee introduced the motion, and Mr. R. Duffy led the opposition. Ten members joined in the discussion. An appreciable feature of the debate was the material introduced, showing that members had spared no pains in preparation. On going to the vote the motion was carried by a small margin.

The billiard table committee are to be commended for the excellent work they have accomplished. The billiard-table and appurtenances have been thoroughly overhauled, and it is anticipated that a record entry will be forthcoming for the handicap tournament that will commence at the end of the present month.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From the club correspondent.)

July 13.

In my previous notes I quite omitted to mention a very important and pleasing ceremony that took place in the club rooms on Thursday, the 29th ult., when members entertained Messrs. Redmond and Donovan, the Irish delegates, who happened to be in Christchurch on that evening. Amongst those present were his Lordship the Bishop, Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Rev. Father Hanrahan, and about 100 of the club members and their lady friends. A very appropriate speech of welcome was made by the president (Mr. J. R. Hayward), to which the delegates responded. A really fine programme of songs and recitations was thoroughly enjoyed by those present, and the club are to be heartily congratulated on the splendid success of the function, and also on being the only Catholic Club in the Dominion to entertain the distinguished visitors.

Last evening the club were 'At home' to the H.A.C.B. Society, and entertained them at a card and billiard tournament, which resulted in a win for the club in cards and a win for the Hibernians in billiards, so honors were easy. During the evening light refreshments were handed round, and Mr. F. Rowe (vice-president) in a neat and humorous speech welcomed the members of the H.A.C.B. Society, to which Mr. E. L. McKeon (president of the society) replied. After supper a capital programme of songs and recitations was given by Messrs. F. Rowe, C. Fotherill, P. McNamara, and F. Healy. A return match is to take place in the Hibernian Hall early in August.

OAMARU.

(From the club correspondent.)

July 14.

At last week's meeting of St. Patrick's Club, a change was made from the stereotyped debate by the holding of a mock 'Trial by jury.' The attendance of members was good, and the evening's programme passed off very successfully. The whole matter had been well worked up by both the prosecution and defence, and a decidedly good representation of a Supreme Court trial was given. The various offices incidental to the case were taken as follows: Judge, Mr. P. C. Hjorring; Crown prosecutor, Mr. M. F. Cooney, assisted by Mr. W. Collins; counsel for defence, Messrs. E. J. Barry and James Molloy; registrar, Mr. F. W. Ongley; prisoners at the bar, Messrs. J. Crowley and J. Connor;