

gates, upon the motion of Messrs. Dobbs and Rasmussen, recorded by acclamation their warm appreciation of the tact and ability of the chairman of the conference (Mr. A. H. Casey), and of the valuable services of the recording secretary (Mr. C. A. Carmine).

Mr. Casey, in reply, thanked the delegates for the attention which they had paid to the business of the conference. He felt sure that their deliberations would prove of much benefit to the various clubs and would lead to the establishment of many new clubs and the consequent strengthening of the federation. He impressed upon all delegates and proxy representatives the necessity of furnishing a full report of the decisions of the conference to their respective clubs, and of interesting the general body of club members in the affairs of the federation. He appreciated very sincerely the goodwill of the delegates, who had, one and all, displayed great earnestness in their deliberations, and he felt privileged to have been in charge of so successful a conference. He thanked, in their name, the Christchurch Club for the accommodation and facilities so kindly afforded to the conference.

INTER-CLUB SHIELD COMPETITIONS.

The first annual inter-club competitions for a handsome shield instituted by the Executive of the federation were held in conjunction with the twelfth annual conference of the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand. The competitions were divided into four classes or sections, viz., debating, elocution, tennis, and billiards. Entries for all sections were received from the Wellington, Greymouth, and Christchurch Clubs. The debating and elocutionary contests were held at the Christchurch club rooms on Sunday afternoon, April 23, when there was a large attendance of delegates and club members. Professor Hight, of Canterbury College, judged the contests, and Mr. A. H. Casey (president of the federation) acted as chairman. The subject for debate was—'That the modern desire for wealth is not conducive to the best interests of the community.' Wellington (represented by Messrs. M. O'Kane and G. Dee) debated first against Greymouth (Messrs. B. J. Rasmussen and J. Minehan). After a spirited debate, Greymouth was declared the winners by 150 points to 120. The next contest was between Christchurch (Messrs. J. R. Hayward and W. F. Jones) and Greymouth, and after a keen debate the judge awarded the honors to Greymouth, with 154 points against 149. Points for shield—Greymouth 7, Christchurch 3½, Wellington 0.

In the elocutionary contest, Messrs. J. Minehan (Greymouth), P. McNamara (Christchurch), and C. A. Carmine (Wellington) made an excellent showing, the judge's decision being in favor of Wellington (83 points), Christchurch receiving 80 points, and Greymouth 76 points. Points for shield—Wellington 6, Christchurch 3, Greymouth 0.

The tennis tournament took place at the Christchurch Club's courts, Shakespeare road, Sydenham, on Monday morning, April 24. Mr. T. O'Connell (Christchurch), who was in excellent form, easily defeated Mr. A. H. Casey (Wellington's emergency representative) by 30 points to 9. Mr. C. Kilgour (Greymouth) next succumbed to Mr. O'Connell by 30 points to 16. The match between Messrs. Kilgour and Casey was keenly contested, and resulted in a win for the Greymouth representative by 30 points to 28. Points for shield—Christchurch 4, Greymouth 2, Wellington 0.

The billiards section was decided on Monday night at the rooms of the Christchurch Club, the first game being played between Messrs. J. Cronin and W. Thomas, both of whom were emergency representatives for their respective clubs—Christchurch and Wellington. Result—J. Cronin 50, W. Thomas 37. The Christchurch representative then tried conclusions with Mr. P. Clunan (Greymouth) and the latter won comfortably, scoring 100 points to 56. Points for shield—Greymouth 4, Christchurch 2, Wellington 0. Grand total of shield points—Greymouth 13, Christchurch 12½, Wellington 6, the shield being thus won by the Greymouth Club, with Christchurch Club a most creditable second. The winning club is entitled to hold the shield (on which its name will be inscribed) until the next competitions, which will be held in conjunction

with the 1914 conference at Auckland next Easter, and for which there is every expectation of much larger entries than on this occasion.

SOCIAL EVENING.

At the conclusion of the conference and competitions a social evening was tendered to the visiting delegates by the local club. Mr. E. T. Harper (president) occupied the chair, and there was an excellent attendance. The following toast list was honored:—'The Shield Winners (Greymouth Club),' proposed by Mr. J. R. Hayward and acknowledged in suitable terms by Mr. C. O'Neill. Mr. Hayward heartily congratulated the Greymouth representatives, who were all young members of great promise, and whose club was, he said, the strongest and best-equipped of any in the federation. The next toast was 'The Federation,' which was proposed in an appropriate speech by Mr. E. L. McKeon, who referred to the many advantages of the federation, and to some of the work which it was possible for the Executive, with the co-operation of the clubs, to do in the interests of Catholic young men. Mr. A. H. Casey (president) in replying gave a resume of the important work done by the conference, and expressed his sincere conviction that a new era of progress was before the federation. He hoped that during the coming year the Executive would, with the practical assistance and co-operation of parish priests, be able to establish many new clubs throughout the Dominion. Mr. W. Thomas, on behalf of the visiting delegates, proposed 'Success and prosperity to the Christchurch Catholic Club,' and in doing so he thanked the president, secretary, and other officers and members for their kind hospitality and good comradeship. Mr. E. T. Harper, in acknowledging the toast, said that his club had been exceedingly pleased to receive the delegates, and that any members of affiliated clubs visiting Christchurch at any time would be accorded the warmest welcome to their club rooms. The toast list was concluded by Mr. W. E. Jones, who in felicitous terms proposed the health of Mr. A. H. Casey, whose work as chairman of the conference had, he said, commanded the respect and admiration of all the delegates. Mr. Casey suitably replied.

During the course of the evening items of an entertaining nature were rendered by Messrs. C. Pottrell, J. Bown, and J. McNamara, and the proceedings, which were most enthusiastic throughout, concluded with cheers for the visitors, the Christchurch Club, and the chairman.

THE PEACE OF CONSTANTINE

In the official bulletin, which has commenced publication in connection with the celebrations of the sixteenth centenary of the Peace of Constantine, the Supreme Council of the festivities makes the following appeal (writes a Rome correspondent): (1) To the Archbishops, Bishops, Vicars, and Prefects Apostolic of the Catholic world to take care to appoint committees, each in his own diocese, for the collection of offerings destined for the erection in Rome of the sacred commemorative monument and to meet the cost of the other festivities indicated in the programme of the Supreme Council. (2) To the Superiors of Religious Orders and houses, the Rectors of Universities and Catholic faculties, seminaries, colleges, schools, and other institutes of education for both sexes, to promote subscriptions in favor of the objects mentioned above, among their confreres, students, and pupils. (3) To the presidents of associations and Catholic societies of every kind, to promote frequent pilgrimages to Rome during the year 1913, and particularly in the period between March and June. (4) To the editors of newspapers, reviews, and other Catholic periodicals to open in their columns lists of subscriptions for the purpose mentioned, to make known to the people by means of suitable articles the great event which is to be commemorated, and to publish, translated into the vernacular, the more important articles of the bulletin. Notice has reached the Supreme Council that committees in connection with the centenary have already been formed in various dioceses of Italy, Spain, Austria, Hungary, France, America, and other countries.

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