

THE EPIDEMIC IN THE NORTH

The only fresh development in connection with the prevailing Maori epidemic in the Auckland district was the location of six more Native cases at Mangere. Believing that place to have been the origin and stronghold of the outbreak the district health officers re-inspected it, the result being that the six patients referred to were found to be suffering from the complaint. All are members of the same family. They were removed to the isolation hospital at Point Chevalier.

The following official bulletin was issued by Dr. Valintine (Chief Health Officer) on Tuesday evening:—

Six Natives from one house at Mangere were admitted to the Auckland Infectious Diseases Hospital to-day. There are now 46 cases isolated. Of this number nine are Europeans. There are 15 pronounced cases isolated in other parts of the Auckland province. A small isolation hospital under the superintendence of Dr. Gunn, has been established at Tarawera. Dr. Baker reports a suspected case at Tangiteroria, on the Northern Wairoa River, and another case—a European—has been reported at Huntly. Two deaths are reported from Maungatautau, both Natives. This is the third death reported from this district. The Wellington and Pahiatua cases are progressing favorably.

In replying to a question regarding the alleged shortage of lymph, Dr. Valintine (Chief Health Officer) stated:—

'I cannot understand why the supply should not suffice in any district. It is certainly not the fault of the department. The demands made on it are not altogether reasonable. It is not possible for the public vaccinators to have carried out so many vaccinations in the time as could have been done with the amount of lymph we have distributed. The officers of the department have been working night and day to cope with the demand, and it is hoped that within the next week or ten days enough lymph will be issued to satisfy all requests. In the meantime we must reserve a large stock for the infected districts. During the last nine days the department has sent out over 150,000 doses, in addition to the large quantities which have been held in stock in various places in the Dominion. This week we hope to distribute another 100,000 inoculations, so you see the department has not been wasting much time.'

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN CAGNEY, OAMARU.

(From our own correspondent.)

It is my sad duty to chronicle another loss to the Catholic community of Oamaru, in the person of Mr. John Cagney, who passed peacefully away, fortified by the rites of the Church, at his residence, Thames street, on Sunday at the age of 74. His death, following so closely on the late Sergeant O'Grady's, is a sad coincidence, both gentlemen being closely associated in Catholic affairs in the parish. They were the only two of the older parishioners who took a practical interest in the Young Men's Club, each filling the office of president in turn. Mr. Cagney was an ideal chairman, and, being a typical Irish humorist, never failed to smooth over any friction that might arise in debate. Of him it can truly be said that he made hosts of friends by his kindly and genial disposition, but never an enemy. The deceased gentleman was born in County Limerick, Ireland, and as a young man migrated to America, where he spent some time before returning to his native land. But the roaming spirit was in him, and he turned to the Southern Hemisphere. After a short sojourn in Australia, he came to New Zealand, making Oamaru his home. Here he was for some years in the employ of the Hon. M. Holmes, at Awamoa, but about forty years ago he bought from Mr. D. Toohey a fancy goods business. This he extended and amplified as years went by, and continued

to conduct until quite recently, when he sold it to his son and retired from business. Mr. Cagney, concurrently with his town business, also engaged in farming, having acquired about 700 acres at Hildershorpe, about twenty years ago. He was a director of the North Otago Dairy Factory Company, whose factory was at Pukeuri, and for some time occupied the position of chairman of directors. Mr. Cagney was a man of energy, who took an active interest in public affairs, and never an election to Parliament took place for a great many years without his taking a keenly active share in determining the result. He was also a live citizen in connection with local affairs, and in December, 1895, he was elected unopposed as one of the Borough Councillors for Thames Ward, filling the vacancy occasioned by the election of the late Mr. Henry Aitken as Mayor. At succeeding elections Mr. Cagney received renewals of the confidence of the ratepayers, and held a seat at the council table until April, 1903, when he retired voluntarily. Mr. Cagney was for many years a Justice of the Peace, and could always be relied upon for duty in that capacity. He also took an interest in athletic sports, and was always found in attendance at the gatherings of both the Caledonian Society and the Hibernian Society. Mr. Cagney was married early in 1875 to Miss Hannah O'Brien, and leaves a widow and four sons and three daughters to mourn their loss. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Basilica this (Tuesday) morning, and the funeral left the church at 2 o'clock, followed by a large and representative gathering of citizens and residents of the surrounding districts, who had come to pay their last mark of respect to their friend of nearly half a century.—R.I.P.

Interprovincial

As showing the mildness of the season, a resident of Bideford informed a *Wairarapa Times* reporter that peach trees in that district were in full bloom.

Mr. Francois Narbey, one of the earliest settlers of Banks Peninsula, died on Sunday. Mr. Narbey came from France in 1849, and was 84 years of age.

The oil industry in Taranaki is very active just now. The derrick and appliances at the Phoenix bore, in the vicinity of the refinery, are completed, and drilling operations are to be prosecuted forthwith.

The *Christchurch Press* states that the owners of various auctioneering yards where poultry sales are conducted on Saturdays consider that the Saturday early closing has done them a lot of good. They find that nearly double the number of buyers attend the sales, and the added competition has had a decidedly hardening effect upon the market. 'Saturday half-holiday is all right,' remarked the auctioneer, 'we find it suits us down to the ground, and livens up business wonderfully.'

Mr. C. S. Brangin, the Agricultural Department's inspector stationed at Ashburton, has just returned from a visit to the back country (says the *Lyttelton Times*). Mr. Brangin states that the back country is wonderfully free from snow for this time of the year. The Cameron and Arrowsmith glaciers are but lightly covered, feed is fairly plentiful, and all classes of stock are doing well.

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

The Grey by-election—disgraceful tactics. Page 33.

Dean Fitchett's 'reply' and Bishop's Cleary's rejoinder—are the Bible lessons merely 'literature'? Pages 23, 22.

Letters to the Editor. Page 45.

The Federation and Politics—the rules laid down by the Holy See. Page 21.

An Appeal from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart—by a grateful client. Page 28.

Holland's centenary and Catholic progress—a 'garden spot' of Holy Church. Page 17.

The "Grand" Pharmacy

For Physician's Prescriptions. Most up-to-date Stock in the District. Country Orders receive prompt attention. 3 WILLIS ST., WELLINGTON.