

APPRECIATION OF A POPULAR POLICE OFFICER.

The decorum which usually characterises court-house proceedings was waived this morning (says the *Dannevirke Evening News* of September 10), when a gathering of business men, lawyers, and townsmen took place there for the purpose of farewelling Senior-Sergeant O'Halloran, who has been in charge of the Dannevirke Police Station for the past three and a-half years, and who has been promoted to Napier. The Mayor, Mr. G. I. Anderson, occupied the chair, and expressed the regret felt by the townspeople at losing a capable and popular officer, one who had always done his duty and had done it with tact. Still, as the change means promotion, they must congratulate Senior-Sergeant O'Halloran on his well-earned reward. The departing officer had discharged his duties most efficiently and though they must often have been of an unpleasant nature, he had managed to perform them without unnecessary harshness or offence. It was a great thing to have an efficient officer in charge of the station, and he was glad to say the town was a clean one and orderly, and they had to thank Sergeant O'Halloran for making it so. On behalf of the townspeople, he wished Senior-Sergeant and Mrs. O'Halloran every happiness and prosperity in their new home.

Mr. R. Fraser expressed, on behalf of the Bar, their esteem and appreciation of Senior-Sergeant O'Halloran, with whom their relations had always been most cordial. It had at first been intended to make a separate presentation from the Bar, but they had afterwards decided to pool their fund with that of the townspeople, and with them to wish Senior-Sergeant and Mrs. O'Halloran every good thing for the future.

Speaking on behalf of the Justices of the Peace, Mr. Thomas Bain, in the absence of the senior Justice, acknowledged the great assistance they had always received from Sergeant O'Halloran in the discharge of their duties, and expressed their cordial wishes for the future welfare of himself and his family.

The chairman then handed to Mrs. O'Halloran a well-filled wallet as an earnest of the appreciation of the residents for the good work done by her husband as senior police officer of the town, after which the court rang with the hearty singing of the usual complimentary chorus and the cheers which concluded it.

Senior-Sergeant O'Halloran said it was difficult for him to express his feelings. He did not feel nearly so courageous as he usually felt in court. He thanked them all very much for the kind things said about him, and hoped that some at least might be true. He reciprocated heartily the good feelings of the Bar, with whom he had always got on well, and thanked Mr. Fraser for his kindly remarks. Addressing Mr. Bain, as representing the Justices, he paid a high tribute to the efficiency and fairness of the J.P.'s of Dannevirke. He had found them one and all absolutely efficient and fairminded, and ready at all times to perform their duties. He knew of no town which had a better class of Justices than Dannevirke, and was sure that any police officer who could not work with them was not worthy of the office. They had been of great assistance to him in keeping the town clean, and he concluded by again thanking all for their kind remarks, handsome gift, and the good wishes for their future, and expressed regret that his promotion meant his departure from Dannevirke.

I've a dear little wife, the star of my life,
Whose blue eyes with love-light shine;
And a beautiful boy, our pride and joy,
In that dear little home of mine.
Oft in winter they wait by the garden gate
To greet me with rapture pure;
And ask did I buy their needed supply
Of Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

September 15.

This week the Hibernians got off their big function which had been in hand for some time—the H.A.C.B.S. soldiers' first reunion for the unveiling of the roll of honor. It so happened that the rain for which we all have been panting, chose the same afternoon and night, but it made little difference to the attendance and none at all to the beauty of the function. The roll of honor is a fine piece of workmanship, consisting of a white marble slab handsomely mounted in fumed oak, and in general appearance it is very neat and plain, the only decorations being the society's initials, emblems, and motto. First on the list is the name of Chaplain Father N. B. Moloney, then come the 50 other names with which most of us are familiar, and out of the number are six specially marked with a little cross who are buried somewhere overseas.

A pleasant function it was and most enjoyable. The Druids' Hall looked prettier than I have ever seen it, the usual flags, greenery, and lanterns being arranged most tastefully. The Hibernians invited members of local sister lodges, and as many of these came, some wearing regalia, the variety in color of silken collars was good to see.

Mr. S. J. Barry presided, Very Rev. Father O'Connell performing the unveiling ceremony and making the principal speech of the evening. Mr. T. B. Williams (Mayor) spoke next, then Mr. W. Veitch, M. P., and finally Capt. F. D. Gaffaney, now of Stratford, but for many years living here, replied on behalf of the soldiers. Rev. Father Moloney (Timaru) was unable to be present, much to everyone's disappointment, as somehow he seems a very special part of the roll of honor and what it stands for. In his speech Father O'Connell made brief but feeling reference to the men who died on the field of honor, mentioning also the chaplains and their good work. Wanganui is very proud of ours, Rev. Fathers Moloney, McDonald, and Barra, whose names are closely interwoven with the memory of the dear departed.

Among the visitors, in addition to those already mentioned, were Mesdames Williams (Mayoress), Mrs. W. Veitch, and Mr. E. Kellett, M.P. for Dunedin North, who spent the week-end here. After the unveiling of the tablet, the fiddles tuned up and folk took their partners for the grand march, and very soon dancing was in full swing. Miss A. Eaton, a debutante, contributed a song, which was much appreciated. Supper—not the often-time scramble it is—was enjoyed in orderly relays, and we couldn't believe our eyes when we saw real loaf sugar on the tables. The Hibernians certainly worked hard and made a great success of the evening, much credit being due to the joint secretaries, Miss Kathleen Broome and Mr. W. J. McGonigle, B.S.

The news of Mrs. Ralph O'Hara's death caused a shock to most of us. The late Mrs. O'Hara was not a Catholic, but as she was well known to everyone, especially during recent years when O'Hara's orchestra supplied the music for most entertainments. Whether playing under engagement or by way of donation, Mr. and Mrs. O'Hara have always been most generous with their time and talent, and could always be depended upon. As a community we offer our sincere sympathy to Mr. O'Hara and his two little daughters.

Mr. Neville Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Allen of here, left during the week for the Old Country, where he hopes to complete his studies. Mr. Allen, who was received into the Church a day or two ago, joined the Abadesa as one of her engineers.

Mr. J. J. Doyle (Timaru) but now of the local Native Land Court staff, is home again from an extensive tour of the South Island.

The many friends of Mr. Martin Kiely are glad to see him about again after his few weeks of illness.

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