

church) and Mr. Eddie Owens. Miss Higgins and Mr. McGuire sang an "O Salutaris" composed by Mr. Harry Hiscocks.

His Lordship Bishop Liston, accompanied by Very Rev. Dean Cahill, Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook, Rev. Fathers Carran and Collins, Rev. Brothers Columbanus and Denis, visited the Marist Brothers' School, Vermont Street, this morning. The Brother Director, welcoming his Lordship, said that they had only a small function to carry out that morning, but apparently, where the schools were concerned, small things counted very much with Dr. Liston. The Brothers and boys greatly appreciated his presence and his sympathy. Rev. Brother Columbanus, Assistant General, was also welcomed.

Very Rev. Dean Cahill donated a gold medal to Philip Soljak for his success in gaining three scholarships, and Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook presented a gold medal to Frank Bennett for gaining two scholarships. A gold medal, donated by Father Carran, was also presented to Roy Callaghan, Auckland schools' representative at the N.Z. Swimming Championships, held recently in Dunedin. In the last five years the school has won 20 scholarships, all in competition with other schools. Besides last year's scholastic success the school has won practically every trophy of consequence in the athletic field. His Lordship congratulated the school on its successes. He impressed upon the boys the importance of developing character, making it very plain to them all the part they themselves must take in the great work. He also welcomed Rev. Brother Columbanus and assured him he would find everything all right in Vermont Street School. Rev. Brother Columbanus said a few words to the boys, and added his congratulations to those of the Bishop. He advised them to take to heart the beautiful words spoken to them by his Lordship. The function terminated with three rousing cheers for Dr. Liston, the clergy, and the visitors.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

Rev. Father O'Regan arrived from Ireland, via Australia, by the Moeraki during the week.

Rev. Father Andersen, Mosgiel, is doing duty at the Cathedral for a few weeks. He preached on Sunday evening.

Apart from members' subscriptions received, the following vice-presidents forwarded generous donations:—Rev. Father Finnerty (Addington), J. Enright (Islington), T. E. Cross. A. M. Hansen, Messrs. J. McCable (the well-known southern athlete), J. Doyle (Tai Tapu), J. C. Ryan, W. J. McKenzie, H. B. Gormley, A. Barrett, W. Hayward, T. Tansy, J. Blackaby, and D. F. Dennehy. The question of Messrs. Davidson (Auckland) and Wilson (Wellington), Dominion representatives at the last Olympic games, Antwerp, being likely competitors at the meeting was gone into, and the committee is hopeful in this respect. Members are showing great enthusiasm as the time approaches and this fact, remarked the president, augers well for a most successful meeting. Accounts amounting to £13 were passed for payment.

At the fortnightly meeting of St. Patrick's Sports' Association held in the Hibernian Hall on Tuesday evening last, there was an excellent attendance. Mr. B. J. McKenna presided, and in his opening remarks made feeling reference to two members of the Association, Messrs. E. Fitzgerald and G. Payne, the former having suffered the loss of his father—one of Ashburton's pioneer settlers, and the latter the loss of his son (Mr. Norman Payne), an athlete of note. A motion of sympathy with the two families was carried, the members standing in respectful silence. The sanction of the North Canterbury Centre to the appointment of Mr. Hassell, of Timaru, as handicapper for the forthcoming meeting met with hearty approval. With correspondence Mr. J. M. Coffey (secretary), since last meeting had been very actively engaged, principally in reply to inquiries from intending competitors in various parts of the Dominion.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

At the Convent of Mercy a reception took place on February 4. His Grace Archbishop O'Shea, officiated, being assisted by Rev. Fathers Cullen and Broughton. Right Rev. Mgr. Walshe was present in the sanctuary. The young ladies received were Misses I. Anderson and E. McGrath of Sydney, N.S.W. They took in religion the names Sister M. Joseph and Dolores, respectively. The Archbishop delivered an appropriate address on the religious life.

The following pupils of the Convent passed the recent public and commercial examinations:—Public service:

H. Ryan and M. Ruck; intermediate: K. McMahon, M. Allan, C. Martin and W. Martin. Commercial examinations.—Gold medallist: H. Ryan; bookkeeping (diploma): H. Ryan and W. O'Neill; bookkeeping (advanced): 11 candidates; bookkeeping (intermediate): 2 candidates; shorthand (advanced): 5 candidates; type (speed): 5 candidates; shorthand (speed), 4 candidates at 50 words per minute, 1 at 120, 1 at 80.

PROTESTANT MINISTER ON IRELAND

Rev. Dr. Norman Thomas, editor of the *World To-Morrow*, who is a Presbyterian minister, thus writes in the current number:—

The *World To-Morrow* has tried to give reasons for its faith in Irish freedom. We have secured an unusually competent correspondent with no Irish affiliations to investigate the situation. We have published her letters. We have also published the solemn declaration of the *London Nation* that no conceivable government in Ireland could be as bad as Dublin Castle rule. It is our own conviction that no atrocity is so serious as the continuing atrocity of the attempt by coercion laws and the sacking of cities to govern a proud people against their will. From the deliberate attempt to coerce Ireland spring all the other ills of the situation.

Not a Blanket Endorsement.

Many of you, however, are not persuaded by the evidence we have carried. It is not our present purpose to argue the problem as a whole, but simply to point out one especial responsibility that rests upon you. The Catholics in certain Ulster towns have suffered from veritable pogroms at a time when not a hair on the heads of the isolater Protestants in Southern Ireland has been touched. On this subject American Protestants ought to speak in unmistakable tones. A Protestant delegation from Ulster received hospitable welcome from many Protestant churches. The delegation has diligently advertised the fact in Ulster. Let American Protestants at least make it plain that their welcome gave no blanket endorsement of a revival of religious warfare. The tragic facts about the Ulster riots are inescapable and undeniable. Last month we quoted the *Nation's* comment on them.

Vivid Pictures of Events in Belfast.

Mr. Francis Hackett in a tone far removed from religious bigotry comments on the situation as he studied it in Belfast. This is his summary:—

"In the name of law and order 4000 workmen are evicted, burned out, driven away. Hundreds of people are wounded and over two score killed."

So far as we are aware, there has been no attempt to deny the fact that in the serious Ulster rioting Protestants and Unionists were the aggressors, Catholics and Sinn Feiners the sufferers and the defenders. On the whole the military supported the rioters, who burned homes and attacked women and children in the name of loyalty to the British Empire and to Protestant religion. A vivid picture of events is to be found in certain private letters which have been sent us. They depict people who for days "were in hourly dread of a raid," who "for nights had no sleep," and whose anxiety has not yet been relieved. This is true of those who did not themselves suffer dispossession or physical injury. It is to the everlasting credit of the Catholics that so far as we can discover they have expressed so little hate in reply.

No Word of Hate From Catholics.

One letter we have seen having recounted events, ends thus:—"There are hundreds of refugees in Belfast; homeless and penniless and no prospect of getting work, we don't even realise what some of our people are suffering. I hope you won't forget to say a prayer for us all; that's the best you can do for the present." There is no word of hate. Irish papers report Protestant meetings in South Ireland to protest against the conduct of their co-religionists. Here and there an attempt is made to extenuate these pogroms, as well as the abominable deeds of the "Black-and-Tans," by reference to the shooting of policemen. However severely you may condemn these acts, surely you will agree that it is monstrous to argue that the murder of policemen charged with particular crimes against the Irish people justifies the pogroms in Ulster or the sack of Irish towns. Surely you do not believe that sniping in Belgium justified the sacking of Louvain, or that the revolutionary terrorism under the Tsar justified Jewish pogroms. Moreover, the English Quaker Commission calls attention to the fact that "safety is found only in those districts from which the English military police have been withdrawn"—a fact which points an easy way to real law and order.

Motive Economic.

The Sinn Fein leaders as a rule recognise that the