

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN CHRISTCHURCH

SPORTS AT LANCASTER PARK.

One of the most successful sports gatherings ever held at Lancaster Park was the second annual meeting of the St. Patrick's Athletic Sports Association, on Saturday (says the *Press*). A fairly strong north-westerly wind blew during the afternoon, which was rather trying for the competitors in some of the events, but otherwise the weather was ideal for athletic sports, being neither too hot nor too cold. There was a very large attendance of the public, and a little over £220 was taken at the gates. A splendid programme had been arranged, and the generous prize money and trophies, the total value of which was over £400, attracted a large number of entries from all classes of athletes. The result was that every event was keenly contested, and the spectators received full value for their entrance money. Taking them all round, the performances were extremely good, while excellent handicapping considerably helped to make the competition close and interesting. One of the most popular wins of the day was that of P. O'Shea, the Australasian champion cyclist, in the three miles St. Patrick's Wheel Race, which he won comfortably, even though he was giving away a lap all but 5 yards. The runners, both amateurs and professionals, acquitted themselves well, and the only regret expressed was that the amateur middle-distance champion, C. H. Taylor, had not sufficiently recovered from his Auckland injuries to compete. Taylor won the Shamrock Cup for most points last year, and had only to win it again to make it his own property. The cup, which was presented by Mr. D. J. Kelleher, and is valued at 25 guineas, was won by J. M. P. Carrick, of the Old Boys' Club, with 6 points, W. A. Ford being a close second with 5 points. W. L. Henry and C. V. Hack, who each won two events, tied with six points for the New Headford Cup, and Mr. T. P. O'Rourke's gold medal for most points in professional events, L. H. Dulzell, with 41 points, being runner-up. Praise is due to the officials for the efficient manner in which they conducted the meeting, which may be judged by the fact that the last race of the big programme was run off only three minutes behind schedule time. Derry's Band played an excellent programme of music during the afternoon.

IRISH NATIONAL CONCERT.

The big area of the King Edward Barracks was crowded out on Saturday night, when an Irish national concert in further celebration of St. Patrick's Day was given in aid of the Nazareth Home. A lengthy and most excellent programme was presented, the items almost entirely being of a nature distinctly appropriate to the occasion. All the old Irish favorite songs were sung, and several newer and lesser known numbers were also presented. Particular interest was imparted to the concert by the appearance of Mr. W. Watters, of Oamaru, and Mr. J. McGrath, both Irish songsters with more than local reputation. The cream of the Christchurch vocalists also assisted, and some very fine items were put on by the Christchurch Lyric Four—Messrs. R. J. Morgan, H. Blakeley, K. More, and E. J. Johnson—who sang "The Dear Little Shamrock," "Softly Dreams," and, by way of encore, some numbers in which they were equally successful. Derry's Band opened the programme with a variety of Irish airs. Mr. A. McDonald sang "The Minstrel Boy" and several other songs to quell the clamor of applause. Miss Jean Wagner who is the possessor of a very clear and true soprano voice, sang the ever popular "Killarney," and also obliged with encore numbers. Mr. W. Watters contributed "The Wearing of the Green," and "O'Donnell Abu," as his main items, but in response to prolonged applause he sang others. Mr. H. Glaysher, of the Greater Crystal Palace orchestra, played some pretty Irish melodies on that instrument rarely heard in solo work, the harp. Miss M. O'Connor, another fine and cultured soprano, sang "Come Back to Erin," together with enjoyable encore songs. Mr. J. McGrath's fine bass voice pealed out in "The West's Awake," "My Irish Land," and other

stirring songs. Mr. Phil Jones also contributed to the programme. Mr. R. Moloney sang a budget of songs very acceptably, and Miss Olga Wacked contributed "God Save Ireland" and other songs. A recitation, the only one on the programme, was given by Mr. Frank McDonald, "Shamus O'Brien." At an interval during the concert his Lordship Bishop Brodie, who was present with a party of his clergy, returned very sincere thanks to the performers and the organisers of the concert, and expressed the hope that a garden fête to be held shortly in aid of the same charity would achieve the success enjoyed by the concert. The work of the accompaniste, Miss Mina Ward, contributed largely to the success of the vocal efforts.

SACRED HEART GIRLS' COLLEGE, CHRISTCHURCH.

The following are the successes obtained in the recent examinations by the pupils of Notre Dame des Missions, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Christchurch:—

University B.A. History and Education—One pass. Class C—One full pass and six passes in three, four, or five subjects. Class D—One full pass, two partial passes, and five passes in two, three, or four groups. Higher Leaving Certificate—Mavis Falconer. Matriculation—Mary Gildea, Margaret Corrigan. Public Service Entrance—Doreen Brittenden, Florence Cotter. Intermediate—Mary McCabe, Eileen O'Connor, Nellie Kiely, Irene O'Malley, Iris Parker, Eileen (Gubb) with credit and 20th in New Zealand. Junior Free Place—Dorothy McGillicuddy. Junior Public Service (shorthand-typiste)—Annie Consedine, Eunice James. Shorthand (speed)—Elsie Ives, Kathleen Mangion (elementary), M. Cook, Evelyn Moulin, Helene Keane, Myrtle Hooker, Irene Ashton, Mary Tansley, M. Fairweather (theoretical), H. Keane, I. Ashton, M. Hooker, M. Cook, E. Moulin.

LLOYD GEORGE ON REPRISALS.

The Peace with Ireland Council, which comprises politicians of all British parties, at a recent meeting of its Executive Committee adopted a resolution condemning the policy of official reprisals adopted by the British Government in Ireland and regarding such a policy "as disgraceful to the British nation" and disastrous to the future prospect of peace, since it is certain that such a policy must stimulate the bitterest feelings in Ireland. Lloyd George is quoted against himself by the reproduction of a statement he made when British military commanders in South Africa adopted the policy of reprisals in the Boer War twenty years ago. At that time Mr. Lloyd George said—

"In regard to military reprisals *nothing is gained by making a man desperate, it is a silly, foolish, iniquitous policy to burn his farm, ruin his property, and bring his family to the grave. It is not a military question at all; it is a question of understanding the ordinary influences that govern human nature.*"—Lloyd George, House of Commons, December 15, 1900.

AN APPEAL TO IRISH FAITH AND LOVE OF ST. PATRICK RAETIHI

In the raging bush fire that swept this district in 1918 our little church (St. Patrick's) at Raetihi was burnt to the ground. We are now making an attempt to raise funds to replace that little church in a permanent material which will withstand the brunt of future fires as the Irish Faith has withstood the brunt of the fires of persecution. To us, who have the Faith from Ireland, the name of Patrick is sweet music to our ears. Here is a practical way to show our gratitude for our Irish Faith and our love for St. Patrick, by helping to raise a church worthy of our Faith and of our glorious Saint at Raetihi.

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