

## ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

April 4.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea returned on Thursday from Marlborough, where he had been on episcopal visitation.

Mr. Robert Lawrence Halpin, whose death occurred at Washington, U.S.A., recently, was very well known in Wellington. He was a brother of Major T. P. Halpin, treasurer of the Wellington Diocesan Council of the N.Z. Catholic Federation, and of Mr. Ben Halpin, of Wairoa, and was born in Auckland 49 years ago. He was a printer and compositor, and 20 years ago was employed on the *New Zealand Times*. He was a partner in a printing establishment in Auckland before he left for the Hawaii Island in 1916. Subsequently he went to Seattle and then on to Washington. He is survived by a widow and a family of four, the eldest being 17 years of age.—R.I.P.

In my report of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations I omitted to mention that the grand organ accompaniments were played by the Rev. Brother Adrian, of the Marist Brothers' School, Tasman Street. The Brothers of the same school designed a particularly fine tableau representing Faith, Hope, and Charity, the motto of the Hibernian Society.

The following is the reply of the Prime Minister to the resolution passed in Wellington on St. Patrick's Day:

Prime Minister's Office,  
Wellington, March 29, 1921.

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, forwarding copy of a resolution passed at a mass meeting of Irish men and women at Newtown Park, on St. Patrick's Day, with reference to the forthcoming Imperial Conference. I have taken note of the representations contained in the resolution, which will have consideration.

Yours faithfully,  
W. F. MASSEY.

Now that the holiday season is over, and initial difficulties surmounted, the promoters of the Catholic Ladies' Club are applying themselves to the task of carrying out the ideals and aims for which the club was inaugurated. All Catholic women in the archdiocese are invited to become members, and with the advantages offered it is confidently anticipated that the numerical strength of the organisation will speedily leave no doubt regarding permanent success. Ladies visiting Wellington from outside the archdiocese will be guests of the club, and thus a friendship will be cemented binding together our Catholic women in all parts of the Dominion. A strong house committee has been formed, and two members will be in attendance each day and evening at the rooms. Regular social functions have been arranged, and members will appreciate the advantages offered by attendance thereat. Their Graces Archbishops Redwood and O'Shea are patrons, with the Right Rev. Mgr. McKenna, Very Rev. Deans Holley and T. McKenna vice-patrons; all of whom have expressed most cordial wishes for success. An artistic little blue enamel badge with the club's lettering may be obtained at a small cost, thus providing an excellent means whereby members may be recognised.

## FEDERATED CATHOLIC CLUBS.

The sixteenth annual conference of the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand was held at Easter at the rooms of the Wellington Marist Old Boys' Association. The following was the representation of the various clubs: M.B.O.B., Wellington, Mr L. Sievers; Wellington Catholic Club, Mr. M. O'Kane; St. Vincent's Club, Newtown, Mr. J. Doogan; St. Columba, Greymouth, Mr. L. A. Higgins; Ashburton, Mr. A. J. Hayden; St. Benedict's, Auckland, Mr. T. H. Forster; secretary of Federal Executive, Mr. T. H. Forster.

Mr. M. O'Kane, who was appointed chairman, welcomed the delegates. Sympathetic reference was made to the death of the late Mr. Gerald Dee, who was president of the federation at one time. Deep regret was expressed at the loss to the federation of Mr. Dee's untiring work in connection with the club competitions usually held during the conference and his sincerity as an executive officer of the Federal Executive during the last ten years.

The chairman pointed out that the meeting was convened to set in motion the machinery of the federated clubs. Five years had elapsed since the fifteenth annual conference, since when many changes had taken place in club life. Several clubs had ceased to exist, while others were in a state of inactivity. Under such circumstances, therefore, it would be ungallant to expect that the enthusiasm and activity that prevailed before the war would

be evident in similar intensity to-day. The present was an occasion for reorganising clubs in a weak condition and visiting new parishes with a view of establishing a society or club, which should prove a very profitable proposition.

The new clubs—St. Vincent's Club, Wellington South, and Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, Wellington—were admitted to membership of the federation.

Mr. L. Sievers, president of the M.B.O.B., Wellington, sketched the growth and character of his association, and dwelt on the bright future of that body.

Mr. T. H. Forster, secretary, on behalf of the executive, reported on matters connected with the federation. The report showed the federation to be clear of debt, and the various activities were explained. The report was adopted.

Mr. A. J. Hayden (Ashburton) moved: "That the Federation's rules be referred to the executive for revision, and subsequent transmission to affiliated clubs throughout New Zealand for suggestions, and that the final draft be submitted to the next annual conference for adoption." This motion was carried after discussion.

Several suggestions were offered by delegates to the incoming executive, amongst which were the adoption of a uniform badge, if practicable, throughout New Zealand; the furnishing of progress reports by clubs more frequently and the forwarding of communications to clergy and to kindred societies to endeavor to form new clubs where none exist, and to assist clubs where they are in being.

On the motion of Mr. T. B. Forster (St. Benedict's) the desirability of mutual co-operation with and participation in the benefits of the New Zealand Catholic Federation, St. Vincent de Paul Societies, Catholic Seamen's conferences, M.B.O.B. associations, and boys' clubs, was affirmed.

The following were appointed office-bearers for the ensuing year:—President-General, his Grace Archbishop Redwood; president, Mr. M. O'Kane; vice-president, Mr. V. Sievers; secretary, Mr. F. Burton; treasurer, Mr. A. J. Hayden; executive, Messrs. R. D. Hickey, J. Fagan, and J. Doogan.

The sincere thanks of the conference were extended to the outgoing officers. It was decided to record on the minutes the conference's appreciation of the splendid services of Messrs. O'Kane and Forster.

It was decided to hold the next conference at Christchurch.

## NEVER TOO LATE.

It is too late? Nay, nothing is too late  
Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate.  
Cato learned Greek at eighty; Sophocles  
Wrote his grand *Oedipus* and *Simonides*  
Bore off the prize of verse from his compeers  
When each had numbered more than four score years;  
And Theophrastus at four-score and ten  
Had but begun his *Characters of Men*.  
Chaucer, at Woodstock, with the nightingales,  
At sixty wrote the *Canterbury Tales*.  
Goethe, at Weimar, toiling to the last,  
Completed *Faust* when eighty years were past.  
What, then! Shall we sit idly down and say  
The night hath come; it is no longer day?  
The night hath not yet come. We are not quite  
Cut off from labor by the falling light;  
Something remains for us to do and dare;  
Even the oldest tree some fruit may bear,  
For age is opportunity no less  
Than youth itself, though in another dress;  
And as the evening twilight fades away  
The sky is filled with stars invisible by day.  
—H. W. LONGFELLOW.

The man who worries lest he has not done as well as he might or lest he has made a mistake, is needlessly concerned. We are all making mistakes. Everything we do might be done better, but we must keep busy and transact the business as it comes day after day.

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