

Christian Brothers' School Concert

A very large audience assembled at His Majesty's Theatre, Dunedin, on Thursday evening, the 15th ult., on the occasion of the annual concert given by the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School prior to the Christmas vacation. Among those present were his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Bishop of Dunedin, Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., Rev. Father Delany (South Dunedin), Rev. Father Buckley (Riverton), Rev. Fathers Kaveney and Marlow (Cathedral), and the teaching staff of the school. Rev. Brother Hynes was in charge of and conducted the musical portion, and Rev. Brother McSweeney directed the gymnastic section of the performers. A very efficient orchestra, composed of pupils of St. Philomena's College, South Dunedin, gave a fine rendering of the overtures "Memories of Erin" and "Norma." The school choir gave a spirited rendering of the choruses "God Defend New Zealand," "Soldier's Song," "Sailor's Lullaby," "The Dear Little Shamrock," "Bells of Gold," and "God Save Ireland." A number of selected voices gave with fine effect "The Minstrel Boy." Master B. Lynskey recited "Easter Week 1916," and Master F. Foster "Freedom's Dead," and were loudly applauded. A similar effort by M. Coughlan was duly appreciated, as was also a song by A. Kennedy, and a dialogue by J. Brown and W. Haydon. The varied capabilities of the pupils were shown in action songs, callisthenics (introducing a plume drill with intricate marching producing a most picturesque effect, and an Indian clubs display), and gymnastics (parallel bars and vaulting horse), the latter proving a very popular display of athletic youth. An extract from "Hamlet" giving four scenes was produced under the direction of Mr. De Spong, the performance of the principals (notably Master A. O'Reilly as Hamlet) being very praiseworthy. Miss Adeline McGrath capably filled the exacting position of accompanist. Speaking at an interval from the stage, Rev. Brother Bowler (director of the school) referred briefly to the school results for the year then closing. The roll numbered 332 pupils, and, with the addition of two extra teachers the staff had been brought up to a satisfactory strength. Both in scholastics and sports the year had been a record one. While this was very gratifying to the teachers, as no doubt it also was to the parents and to the boys themselves, it was very regrettable to observe the tendency to shut their school out from all sports. This apparently was the decision of those controlling primary schools' sports, and the public, generally, could form an opinion on the intolerant methods being adopted.

His Lordship Bishop Whyte, was greeted with applause, paid a tribute to the work of the Christian Brothers, and thanked them for their services to education. They trained the boys in religion; not alone by instruction and exhortation, but by example. With regard to sport, he congratulated the school on its success during the year, and thanked the lovers of sport in this city who admired the spirit of the boys who had raised the standard of sport.—(Applause.)

Father Coffey also paid a tribute to the work of the nuns and brothers, and stated that the general public had cut them out of every concession and out of primary scholarships. There had also been an indication of a move of certain people to cut them out of sport. If people did this they could not speak of tolerance. If they decided to have private schools and certain religious beliefs or practices nobody had any right to interfere. He protested against the intolerance which was taking away every concession. Alluding to the present peace prospects Father Coffey said that when Ireland came into her rights she would set an example of tolerance to the world, when every person would have the right without compulsion to be educated according to the dictates of his conscience.

The concert concluded with the singing of "God Save Ireland."

Following are the School results for 1921:—Higher leaving certificates 2; matriculation passes 9; partial passes 4; public service 3; intermediate 13; junior national scholarships 2; senior national scholarships 1; proficiency certificates 40; competency certificates 5. Successes in sport: Boxing champions—A. Lister, T. McCarten, B.

Carter, J. O'Connor, J. Hayes; Caledonian sports—secondary events: Winners of relay race; 220yds. (under 14); second in 220yds (under 16); long jump (under 16); 100yds (under 16); ½-mile (under 16); long jump (under 14); cricket—The secondary schools' banner; football—rugby: secondary schools' and primary (C) banners; soccer: secondary schools' competition and runners-up in primary competition.

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- That the four Comedians are Messrs. Joe Valli, from the Palladium, London, Bert Barton (late of J. C. Williamson's Pantomime), Frank Moran, seven feet of laughter, and Tano Fama whom you all saw last time.
- That the Sketch "Tickets Please" is the funniest you ever laughed at.
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- That you will Laugh Louder and Longer at this Digger's show than you have ever done.
- That the Diggers' show is Better than you have ever seen before.

ES: The Famous "Diggers" are now touring Central Otago and will be at Queenstown on the 7th and Lumsden on the 9th inst.

The dates of performances in other towns will be given in future issues of the *Tablet*.

MISSION STAMP COLLECTING SOCIETY

POONAH, INDIA.

Dear Friend,—Our Missions have suffered severely financially through war, famine, and disease. The distress and poverty existing in some of our Missions are heart-rending. As cash is hard to procure, we ask all charitable persons to gather and send to us all the cancelled stamps they can. The stamps thrown away daily in a large city would keep a Mission for a whole year. These should be sent to Mr. Bert Gallien, Chemist, North-east Valley, Dunedin, who has been appointed agent for New Zealand, and thus save excessive charges now being made (to the mission) on small parcels of stamps sent direct.

Sincerely in Christ,
(Rev.) HENRY WESTROFF, S.J.

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