

Of Local Interest

ENGLISH PRIZE DEBATE.

The thirteenth annual prize debate, which is held by the English Debating Society, took place in the Normal School on Wednesday evening, April 23rd. The subject of the debate, involving the much discussed liquor question, proved a very interesting one. It read, "An anti-treating law would do more for the furtherance of the temperance cause in Ontario than would the abolition of the bar."

The affirmative speakers were Messrs. Leonard W. Kelley and Cornelius A. Mulvihill. The contenders for the abolition of the bar were Messrs. F. W. Hackett and Theodore J. Kelly. All four speeches were of a high order, and so closely was the debate contested that the judges afterwards acknowledged that the task of rendering a decision had been a most difficult one. L. W. Kelley, the leader of the affirmative, was awarded the gold medal, and his side was also credited with the victory of the debate.

Mr. Kelley, the medal winner, delivered a very able speech. His arguments were well pointed, and were rendered all the more effective by a clear enunciation. Mr. Theodore Kelly, leader of the negative, also presented a strong array of arguments, his delivery, too, being of a high standard. Of the four speakers, Mr. Mulvihill was possibly the most logical. His arguments, everywhere substantiated by facts, were marshalled in a creditable manner. The last speaker of the negative, Mr. Hackett, did not allow himself to be closely confined to the question, but his oratory received special praise from the judges. Mr. L. Kelley delivered a strong rebuttal.

In making the announcement as to the decision at which the judges had arrived, Rev. Father J. O'Gorman congratulated all four debaters on the excellence of their maiden speeches. The Debating Society and its Moderator, Rev. Fr. Fallon are to be commended on the production of such promising talent.

The brothers-in-judgment of Rev. Father O'Gorman were Drs. S. Nagle and F. Quinn.

Mr. J. Harrington presided. The musical programme included solos by Messrs. F. Fink and G. Coupal.