

and I am therefore forced to the conclusion that what was said was really meant. Some of the previous speakers (continued the Dean) had been good enough to refer to what had been done in the district since his arrival there but perhaps it had not occurred to them that in praising the work done during the past thirteen years they were really praising themselves. Although he had been the instrument by which much of the work was done, yet they had supplied the sinews of war, without which he could have done but little. When his Lordship the Bishop entrusted this district to his charge the finances of the parish were undoubtedly in a very bad condition, and one of the reasons why he had undertaken the work was that Father Coffey, under whose administration the parish had somehow got into debt, was a friend of his, and he desired to do all he could to retrieve the situation. He might say that he had never heard anyone say a word against Father Coffey, and he was very glad he had been able to assist in wiping out the debt. The erection of a new presbytery in Ashburton was more of a crying necessity than the erection of a new church, but if his congregation were able to contribute over £1600 to the Cathedral in Christchurch, and to give him the very handsome cheque he had received that evening, there was no doubt of their ability to raise the necessary funds to erect both a presbytery and a church. He would be pleased to devote the cheque he had received to the purpose indicated by the donors, and trusted that the purchase of an automobile would increase his facilities for the effective administration of the parish. He must thank all those who subscribed or who worked up the present demonstration, and would especially mention Messrs. Thomas O'Carroll, M. J. Burgess, and A. J. Muller. The last-named gentleman's duties as secretary had taken up a great deal of his time, which was most cheerfully given. He also thanked the performers at the concert, and last, but not least, he thanked his Lordship the Bishop for his presence. That was an honor he had not expected. He was pleased to see such men as Messrs. Friedlander, Thomas, Collins, and the Mayor there that evening. If people held different views to them as Catholics on the best way to worship God, that was no reason why they should look askance at them. They were all trying to work out their destinies in the way which to them seemed best, and he must make a plea for friendly relations with all outside denominations.

A pleasant feature of the evening's proceedings was the high level of excellence reached by the various speakers, the members of the local Catholic Debating Society being especially conspicuous in this respect.

Before the gathering dispersed Mr. M. J. Burgess, on behalf of the committee, thanked the performers for their services, the subscribers for their generosity, and the audience for their attendance.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

July 1.

The Archbishop returned from Nelson on Friday. His Grace experienced very unpleasant weather during his visit. Confirmation services were held at Nelson and Takaka.

Over £300 were realised by the charity concert recently held in aid of the Home of Compassion. This is a record, and shows clearly that the Sisters of the Poor have won the sympathy of the public of Wellington by their earnest and disinterested efforts on behalf of the poor and afflicted.

St. Patrick's College Cadets formed part of the guard of honor to his Excellency the Governor at the opening of Parliament on Tuesday. The boys looked well in their smart green uniforms, and were specially complimented by Colonel Webb, the officer in command of the district, on their appearance and bearing.

The Catholic Young Men's Debating Society will be represented in the coming debate between the various city debating societies by Messrs. A. H. Casey, P. J. Moran, and F. McDonald. The question of the advantages and disadvantages of commercial trusts will form the subject of discussion.

The members of the Catholic Young Men's Club have arranged a series of social gatherings during the winter months. The second of the series took place in Spiller's Hall on Wednesday evening, and proved a

most enjoyable affair. In connection with the club two sick visitors have been appointed for the purpose of keeping in touch with any members who may be incapacitated from time to time, and need the assistance and sympathy of their fellows. This arrangement will recommend itself to the other clubs in the Colony.

On Tuesday evening next the committee and stall-holders of the recent bazaar will meet in the Buckle street presbytery for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. Fred. W. Crombie, who so ably filled the position of secretary to the fete. The clergy will also take the opportunity of making him some suitable gift in recognition of his valuable services.

The public conferring of degrees on the graduates of Victoria College took place in the concert room of the Town Hall on Thursday afternoon. The proceedings were at times marked by the noisy behaviour that seems to be a necessary characteristic of these functions. Some time ago the Registrar of the University wrote to the various Students' Associations asking for their assistance in securing order at the capping ceremonies, so as to give speakers an opportunity of bringing matters of educational importance before the public. The Victoria College students, in drawing up their programme, assigned fifteen minutes for the Chancellor's address. Sir Robert Stout, however, did not confine his remarks within this limit, and then the fun commenced. Sir Robert administered a severe rebuke, and threatened to discontinue the conferring of degrees in public. After this affairs proceeded in a more orderly fashion. Among the graduates was Mr. S. J. Moran, a member of a family well known in Catholic circles here. Mr. Moran has graduated as a Bachelor of Laws.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

June 29.

On June 27 a very successful social took place in the Gaiety Theatre, the commodious building being crowded. A feature of the programme was a series of tableaux arranged by Mr. T. Durney. A ladies' committee provided an excellent supper. Much of the success is due to the efforts of the energetic secretary, Mr. T. Durney.

June 21 being the feast-day of Rev. Father Goggan, the children of St. Joseph's Convent gave a concert in celebration of the event. A very acceptable programme of vocal and instrumental music and recitations was gone through during the afternoon by the pupils, who also took the opportunity of presenting their spiritual director with an address expressive of their esteem. A handsome present, in the shape of a benediction veil, beautifully worked by the Sisters, accompanied the address, which the rev. gentleman feelingly acknowledged. In the evening a number of parishioners assembled at St. Patrick's presbytery to offer their pastor felicitations on the occasion of his feast-day. Mr. John Higgins, on their behalf, asked the Rev. Father's acceptance of a purse of sovereigns as a mark of their regard. Father Goggan suitably replied.

Nelson

(From our own correspondent.)

June 27.

Last Sunday his Grace Archbishop Redwood administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's, Nelson, when over 70 girls and boys were confirmed. His Grace preached at the 11 o'clock Mass and at Vespers, both sermons being appropriate to the feast of Corpus Christi. The choir sang Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle' in a finished manner, the Rev. Father Moloney, of Wellington, assisting.

The first concert and social, under the auspices of the Nelson Catholic Society, was held on June 22 at St. Mary's Hall, and the excellent programme was highly enjoyed by the large audience. The following ladies and gentlemen kindly assisted: Mrs. Scott Cole, Misses Driscoll, Hanson, Rev. Father Moloney, Messrs. Wil-mott, Rosewarne, and Black. All the vocalists were enthusiastically recalled. Miss Duff proved an able accompanist. A social gathering followed the concert, when refreshments were handed round by the ladies' committee. At the close of the concert Rev. Father Clancy thanked all for their patronage, also the working committee, who did so much to make the entertainment so successful. Among those present was Archbishop Redwood, who expressed his satisfaction with the concert, which had given him much pleasure.