

for a good purpose. He felt it was a pleasure to be associated with the ladies and gentlemen who were connected with the bazaar. Mr. Crombie was also the recipient of a very useful gift, made on behalf of the clergy of the parish.

## DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 10.

The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., (Provincial) is now on a personal visit to Canterbury.

The war against consumption was advanced another stage locally on last Thursday evening by a public meeting, under the auspices of the Canterbury section of the British Medical Association, to establish "a sanatorium in the vicinity of the city. A considerable amount of interest was displayed in the proposal. Among the speakers on the platform was the Rev. Father O'Connell, who, as representing his Lordship Dr. Grimes, said the Bishop had asked him to assure the meeting of his Lordship's sympathy with the movement. It was true, he continued, that the people of the Colony were set to work to lessen the evil, or end it, if possible. The people of Canterbury, when there was a cry for help, had always done their part loyally, and would do so again in the present case. He was glad to be able to enter into the crusade, and heartily supported the motion.

Among the many sided incidents of human nature witnessed in the courts daily, the following is quoted from the Press:—"The usual court audience was entertained yesterday by the 'turn' of a pig-tailed Celestial, who being called as a witness, elected to be sworn in the picturesque fashion of his country. A wax match was lighted by the Court orderly, and placed in the Chinaman's right hand. The charge had to be interpreted, and as this took some little time, the ceremony resolved itself into a race, and all heads craned eagerly forward to see whether the flame would reach the witness's fingers before the blowing-out moment arrived. It looked as though the match would win, for the thin red flame flared up merrily. Seeing the danger, the Court orderly put on pace, and won by a fraction of a second, the Chinaman extinguishing the flame with much haste as it was hungrily melting.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Particular Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was held on last Monday evening at the presbytery, Barbadoes street. Representatives of the Cathedral, St. Mary's (Manchester street), and St. Joseph's (Lyttelton), Conferences, were in attendance. Owing to the indisposition of the spiritual director, the Very Rev. Vicar-General, the Very Rev. Dean Binsfeld, S.M., kindly acted as chairman on the occasion, the Rev. Father Melu, S.M., of Otago, being also present. A considerable amount of correspondence was dealt with, especially in connection with the recently founded Sacred Heart Conference at Timaru. Regarding the work of extension of the Society a very favourable report was received from a Brother, who recently visited the southern districts, of personal interviews with the resident clergy, the outcome of which promises well for the founding of additional conferences in the immediate future. Reports regarding the various conferences attached to the Particular Council were presented, that in reference to the mission to Catholic Seamen being especially interesting and instructive. Inter-communication and co-operation between the society at Lyttelton and the new one at Timaru in the interests of Catholic seamen is already established. The next ordinary meetings were fixed to be held in St. Mary's, Manchester street, on August 7, and on September 3, at Lyttelton. After a few interesting remarks by the Very Rev. Dean Binsfeld, the meeting adjourned.

The half-yearly meeting of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Monday, July 4, Bro. Pearce (vice-president) in the chair. A letter was received from the trustees suggesting that steps be taken to dispose of the hall, and it was decided to convene a special meeting on July 17 to discuss the question, together with several other important matters. The balance sheet and auditors' report for quarter ending June 19 were read and adopted. The report showed a substantial increase for that period, financially and numerically. The printed report of the annual meeting of the district was laid on the table, and consideration held over till the special meeting. The resignation of Bro. P. Borlase as president, through ill health, was accepted with regret, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded for past services—services recognised by all to

have been of lasting benefit to the Society. A letter sympathising with the brother in his illness was ordered to be forwarded. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—President, Bro. P. Pearce; vice-president, Bro. J. J. Hendron; secretary, Bro. G. J. Sellars (re-elected); assistant secretary, Bro. M. Mannix; treasurer, Bro. L. Haughy (re-elected); warden, Bro. M. Dineen; guardian, Bro. G. Nee; sick visitors, Bros. J. McCormick and Pender; medical attendants, Drs. Brownlee, Devonport, and Moorhouse; auditors, Bros. Doolan and Mannix; benevolent committee, Bros. G. J. Sellars, Doolan, and Evans. The installation of officers (Bro. Doolan, assisted by Bros. Evans and McCormick, officiating) took place on July 6. Mrs. and Miss Doolan presided over the refreshments. The receipts for the quarter amounted to £117 17s 2d.

## Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

July 7.

On Tuesday Confirmation will be administered in St. Andrew's Church to about 27 candidates.

The first round of the Friendly Societies' card tournament is now finished, and the Hibernians have proved the winners.

On Monday night last St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society held its usual half-yearly meeting in St. John's Hall. The principal business of the evening, the election of officers, resulted as follows:—President, Bro. J. Venning, vice-president, Bro. M. Flanagan; secretary, Bro. J. O. Fitzgerald (re-elected); treasurer, Bro. J. Sullivan (re-elected); sick visitors, Bros. Moriarty and Venning; assistant secretary, Bro. M. F. Dennehy; auditors, Bros. Lynch and Doyle. On the termination of the formal business an adjournment was made to the boys' school, where a banquet was tendered the retiring president, Bro. T. Connor. The chair was taken by Bro. J. Venning, and he was supported on the right by the Rev. Father Tubman, and on the left by the guest of the evening. A lengthy programme of toasts, songs, and speeches was gone through, all the speakers making mention of their guest as a thorough Catholic, a patriotic Irishman, and a true Hibernian, who had contributed by his tact and judgment in bringing about the pleasant state of unity and brotherly feeling which pervades the Timaru branch. Father Tubman, on behalf of the branch, asked Bro. Connor to accept a handsomely framed past president's certificate as a perpetual reminder to him of the good work he had done in the branch, first as member and then as president, and further remarked that he subscribed fully to the sentiments expressed by his brother Hibernians regarding him. Bro. Connor replied in a short and feeling speech, thanking the members for their handsome gift, which he would look upon as one of his greatest treasures.

The 'old boys' of our Catholic school met the present pupils at a friendly game of football on the Athletic Grounds on Thursday. Though the school showed superior play, the weight and size of the ex-pupils secured them the victory by three points to nil.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes commenced his visitation of the parish on Friday. On Sunday morning he celebrated the nine o'clock Mass and also preached. Large numbers approached the Holy Table at the early Masses, among them being those who were preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. At three o'clock, the hour fixed for the administration of Confirmation, the church was filled to its utmost capacity. The candidates numbered 160—75 girls, 65 boys, and 20 adults, 10 of the last-mentioned being converts. The boys had been instructed by Brother Martin, and the girls by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart and Rev. Father Finnerty, who also had instructed about 25 children from country schools. After a thorough examination of their knowledge of Christian doctrine, his Lordship expressed himself as highly pleased at their proficiency, and after a short address he proceeded with the administration of the Sacrament, being assisted by Rev. Fathers Tubman, Finnerty, and Buckley. In the evening his Lordship preached, addressing his remarks principally to the newly confirmed. At the conclusion of an eloquent sermon the children renewed their baptismal vows, and took a pledge to abstain from all intoxicating drink till their 21st year. Then Master Gerald Vertue, on behalf of the boys, read a consecration to St. Joseph, and Miss M. Schaab read a similar act to the Blessed Virgin for the girls. His Lordship officiated at Benediction, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Tubman and Finnerty, and a procession was then formed to the Priory grounds, where, after a few words from his Lordship, the children dispersed.