

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The dramatic class in connection with St. Joseph's Ladies' Club, assisted by friends, produced on Wednesday evening of last week in St. Joseph's Hall the comedies 'A Slight Mistake' and 'Ici on parle Français.' There was a large and appreciative audience, including the local clergy. Both pieces were produced under the direction of Miss Leech, and as they were well rehearsed the productions went with a swing from start to finish, that displayed the perfection in the histrionic art which the performers have attained. The cast of characters in 'A Slight Mistake' was as follows: Lady Prince Proudly, Miss M. Staunton; Penelope Perfect, Miss I. Popplewell; Rosina, Miss M. Bryant; Dorothy, Miss L. Bryant; Sarsnet, Miss Smith. The performers, one and all, showed more than ordinary dramatic ability and a true conception of their parts. In the well known farcical comedy, 'Ici on parle Français,' the various characters were sustained as follow: Major Regulus Rattan, Mr. T. Deehan; Victor Dubois, Mr. H. Miles; Mr. Spriggins, Mr. T. Wilkinson; Mrs. Spriggins, Miss A. Clancy; Angelina, Miss A. Treston; Julia, Miss K. Hannigan; Anna Maria, Miss K. Hannigan. This amusing piece was admirably staged, the acting being on a plane much higher than that generally reached by amateurs. A small but efficient orchestra, under Mr. W. Miles, contributed much to the evening's enjoyment. Owing to the success attending Wednesday evening's production it has been decided to stage both plays again in the near future.

Bazaar at Port Chalmers

A bazaar and fancy fair for which the ladies of the Catholic congregation had been energetically working for several months were opened in the Garrison Hall, Port Chalmers, on Monday evening by the Mayor (Mr. D. A. De Maus), who in his opening remarks complimented the committee on the completeness of the arrangements, and the stallholders on the excellent display of goods. The decorations were on an extensive scale, Japanese in style, and very artistic. The fair is in aid of the building fund of St. Joseph's Convent school, and judging from the very comprehensive display of artistic and useful goods—the best which has ever been seen at Port—it should prove a great financial success. The stalls, of which there are four, are arranged and decorated with much taste, and in keeping with the general surroundings. In the centre of the building is a large maypole, which is a special feature of the decorative arrangements. The following is a list of stalls and stallholders:—No. 1 stall—Mrs. Mead, assisted by the Misses Staunton and M'Kay. No. 2 stall—Mesdames Heller, Borliss, and Varney. No. 3 stall—Mrs. Hart, assisted by Mesdames O'Halloran and Smith and Miss Miller. Confectionery stall—Mrs. Hyland. The refreshment room is in charge of Mesdames McCann and Albertson. On the opening night the children attending the convent school gave a number of graceful dances, which were greatly appreciated by the large audience. The children also contributed first-class vocal and instrumental items. The fair will remain open until the end of the week, and on each evening a new and attractive programme will be presented.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

September 4.

His Lordship the Bishop left last Saturday on a pastoral visitation to Akaroa.

The Rev. Father Rockliffe, who arrived in New Zealand by the last San Francisco mail steamer, reached Christchurch on Friday. He was in South Africa during the late war and afterwards in America.

Mr. M. Nolan, who is taking a trip to the Old Country, via America, was at Saratoga, N.Y., on August 1, having visited Niagara Falls, Toronto, etc., travelling down the Hudson river to New York.

St. Aloysius' Hall, which was moved to form an addition to Nazareth House, is now re-erected on its site as good as new, and adds very materially to the accommodation of that institution. Connected with the main building, the extensive structure is divided into a large day room, dormitory, and bath rooms, and fitted up with every modern requirement for the comfort and accommodation of the aged female inmates for whom it is intended.

At all the Masses and at Vespers in the Cathedral on Sunday collections were taken up on behalf of the

funds of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Cathedral Conference). The Very Rev. Vicar-General made an eloquent appeal at the 9.30 o'clock Mass for the object under notice. At 11 o'clock the Rev. Father Rockliffe celebrated a Missa Cantata, and the Rev. Father S. Mahony preached the annual charity sermon. A generous response was the result on the part of the congregation.

Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., at the Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Sumner, last Sunday. The Rev. Father made a special appeal on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which was generously responded to by the congregation. Father O'Connell stated that as the church at Woodston would be started soon, which would necessitate having a priest, the Sumner Catholics would not be so long without Mass as it was the intention to have one priest to look after both parishes.

In the Catholic Club room on Wednesday night last, the boys attending the Marist Brothers' school, who have been successful in securing the 'Senior Flag' in the public schools' football competition, were entertained at a social and supper by the Catholic ladies of the Cathedral parish, and the members of the club. Mr. P. Pender presided. Songs were given by Misses Hayward, Potter, Shanley, Canavan, McKay and Edmunds. Mr. Doolan gave a recitation, and Miss Casey played the accompaniments. When justice had been done to the good things provided, the chairman congratulated the boys on their success. He was always pleased to see Catholic boys coming to the front, and he felt assured that their efforts during the season in the football field, was in keeping with the vigor with which they applied themselves to the acquisition of knowledge, which in the future would enable them to attain success in whatever walk of life they may choose to follow. He exhorted them to be always upright, always manly, always striving after better things, and never to rest satisfied with a position when a better was attainable. During the evening a presentation—a neat dressing-case—was made to F. Woodham, the captain of the team. Brother Basil said it was almost invidious to single out any member of the team for special distinction. All had worked hard, and acquitted themselves creditably, as the scoring of 167 points to nil would show; but Woodham had been so consistent and prominent as a player, not only during the season just ended, but many previous ones, that some recognition of his services was deemed fitting and deserving. The Rev. Fathers Mahony and Peoples spoke in praise of the boys, and expressed their great pleasure at their success. The boys manifested their gratitude to Mr. G. Dobbs, to whose kindly efforts the pleasant reunion was due, and also to Mesdames Dobbs, Cahill, and Williams, and to the Misses Cronin, who, at much trouble, provided and prepared the repast. A hearty cheer was reserved for Brother Walter who, during the season, had been acting as coach.

Rangiora

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

On Tuesday at Rangiora the pupils of the Catholic schools, conducted by the Sisters of Our Lady of Missions, took part in a charming entertainment arranged in honor of the visit of the Bishop. A special feature of the event was the presentation to his Lordship by the children of a purse of gold, on behalf of the Cathedral fund.

In continuance of his episcopal visitation of the diocese, his Lordship the Bishop arrived at Rangiora on last Saturday week. He celebrated first Mass next morning at 8.30 a.m. in the Church of St. Mary and St. Francis de Sales, and at the eleven o'clock Mass the Bishop conducted the ceremonies of the visitation in the church and visited the adjoining Catholic cemetery. After Mass he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation. In the evening his Lordship preached on the Blessed Sacrament to a crowded congregation. On Monday he visited Oxford, where on arrival he was presented with an address of welcome, to which his Lordship replied in suitable terms. Here the Bishop administered the Sacrament of Confirmation, and on the following day at St. Bridget's Church, Lohurn. On Wednesday his Lordship visited St. Patrick's Church, Kaiapoi. Being attended by the Rev. Fathers Hyland and McDonnell. Forty persons in all were confirmed during the visitation of the northern parish, whilst among those at Rangiora the Bishop was very pleased to confirm eleven adult converts, seven of whom were men and four women.

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