

Maggie Mitchell; writing, Ray Doherty. Second Primer.—Reading, Mary Ready; spelling, Aileen Jarman; recitation, Doris Sullivan; tables, Bert Walker; A B C, Percy Tredgold. The Sisters of Mercy tender their thanks to the following donors of prizes:—Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Rev. Fathers O'Shea and Kimbell, Messrs Segrief, M'Ardle, M. O'Connor, White, and Whitaker.

Convent Schools, Wellington South

(From our own correspondent.)

December 16.

The annual entertainment given by the pupils of the Convent Schools, Wellington South, prior to their breaking up for the Christmas vacations, was held in the Victoria Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and reflected much credit on the performers and on the good Sisters, who have spared no trouble in training them. On Wednesday evening the annual prize distribution took place. The Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., presided. The following is the list:—

ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL.

Christian doctrine (equal in merit), Valentine Barton and Horace Wimsett.

Standard VI.—Highest marks, boys Rohan M'Cardell, girls Mary Delaney; best attendance, boys Valentine Barton, girls Mary Drury; good conduct, Cecelia O'Connor; general proficiency, Frances Delaney; arithmetic, Mary Delaney; composition, Nellie M'Kelliget; needlework, Winifred Patterson.

Standard V.—Highest marks, boys Percy Stitt, girls Nora O'Neill; general proficiency, Patrick Bourke; best attendance, boys Frank M'Donald, girls Nora Drury and Fanny Hickey.

Standard IV.—Highest marks, boys Fergus O'Sullivan, girls Kathleen Huddy; general proficiency, Joseph Ross; Christian doctrine, Bessie Delaney; drawing, boys James M'Erlean, girls Ruby Lee and Ruby Peters; Nature-study, William Rouse.

Standard III.—Highest marks, boys Raymond Kirk, girls Ellen Dunne; proficiency, Vera Beveridge; Christian doctrine, Jeanne Kruse; regular attendance, William North.

Standard II.—General proficiency, boys Joseph O'Neill, girls Mary Rigg.

Standard I.—Regular attendance, Eric Schrader; general improvement, Ferdinand Wimsett; spelling, Nellie Mears; writing and drawing, Agnes Ellis; reading, May Keogh; arithmetic, Mary Cullanan.

Singing.—Valentine Barton 1, Joseph Ross 2.

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL.

Good conduct (silver medal), May Ryan; Christian doctrine (silver medal), Annie Flanagan; dux (gold watch), Moya O'Sullivan; class singing (silver medal), Grace Ridler; pianoforte playing (gold medal), Mabel Bourke; intermediate grade, first prize, Mabel Fownes; higher division, improvement in singing and music, Kate Jameson; lower division (equal in merit), Clarice Nash and Annie Hickey; improvement, Agnes Fitzgibbon and Teresa Flanagan; elementary division, Winny Batcheler 1, Fanny Hickey 2; popularity, Annie Flanagan; wood-carving, first division, Arthur Ridler; wood-carving, second division, Eileen Carrigan 1, Annie Tonner 2.

Class I.—Composition, Molly Molloy; arithmetic, Eileen Carrigan 1, Kate Jameson 2; English grammar, Annie Flanagan; Latin, Elizabeth Kruse; algebra, Eileen Carrigan 1, Grace Ridler 2; drawing, Nellie Beagley; reading, Myrtle Leydin; spelling, Molly Molloy; penmanship, Nellie Beagley.

Class II.—Christian doctrine, Kathleen Sullivan; English composition and reading, Kathleen Sullivan; spelling and penmanship, Eileen Lavery; drawing and recitation, Josephine Keogh; arithmetic, Bessie Jameson; composition, Eileen Lavery; singing, Bessie Jameson.

Class III.—Christian doctrine, Louis Becker; composition, reading, and drawing, Jack Fitzgerald; arithmetic and geography, Louis Becker; penmanship, recitation, and brushwork, Myrtle Wylie; English grammar, spelling, and needlework, May Read.

Class IV.—Christian doctrine, Eileen Corby; arithmetic, reading, and drawing, Victor Becker; spelling, penmanship, and brushwork, Eileen Corby; geography, recitation, and Nature-study, Kathleen Corby.

The Sisters of Mercy tender their thanks to the following donors of prizes:—Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Rev. Fathers Ainsworth and M'Carthy, Messdames Bourke, Hislop, Collins, O'Sullivan, Reardon, Messrs Maurice O'Connor, North, H. Barber, J. Corby, W. Redmond, J. J. Bourke, H. G. Houldsworth, G. Winder, James O'Sullivan, and Laurenson.

Hawera Convent School

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 20.

The annual entertainment by the Convent School children came off on Wednesday at the Opera House, and attracted a very large audience. It seemed ambitious for the children of a primary school to appear in so large a hall, but that they were eminently successful is beyond a doubt. They kept the attention of the house for over two hours, and for every item won most generous applause. While the programme gave satisfaction to those of the most varied tastes, it showed how com-

petent the Sisters were to undertake every branch of a sound primary education. There were graceful drills and dances, showing that great attention must have been paid to that form at least of physical culture. We had music and her sister song. Then there came a beautiful little drama entitled "Through Darkness to Light," into which the children down to the youngest entered with a spirit that would do credit to much older amateurs. The finest points about the whole programme were the perfect articulation of the children—not a word being lost in either the choruses or the drama—and the beautiful singing of the boys. For the most part in New Zealand the boys seem to be more or less neglected when there is question of the graces of education; but this is not the case in the Hawera Convent School. The Sisters intend the singing of the boys to be a special feature of our school concerts for the future, and they know by experience that with a little care and patience much can be made of the voices of boys. At the end of the programme the Very Rev. Father Power returned thanks, on behalf of the audience and on his own behalf, to the children who had given them such a treat. Now that there was such a demand, not only for the elements of a sound education, but for those accomplishments that enabled the educated to grace their position in life, he was glad to find that the Convent Schools here and elsewhere were meeting that demand, and generously pouring out the supply; and he was grateful to the audience for their acknowledgment of that so far as the Hawera Convent School was concerned. The report of the Government inspector was proof of the Sisters' good work in a more important branch of education, and the examination which he himself had held in Christian doctrine showed that the highest branch of all had not been neglected.

The Manaia Convent School children were unable to have their annual display through there being no suitable hall, but the sacred concert given by them in the church on Monday evening showed that they had been well taught.

Otaki Convent School

The concert held in the Town Hall in connection with the Otaki Convent School (says the local "Mail") proved highly successful, and was one of the best yet held here. The programme was a first-class one. The first item was a nicely-played pianoforte solo by Miss Ida Buck, followed by a song by the juniors. Master R. Williams's recitation caused great laughter, while the song "Physiology" by the boys also caused great merriment. A pianoforte duet by Misses Tompsitt and E. Stansell was splendidly given. The song by Miss A. Hannan, in character, proved effective, and created considerable amusement; while the gun drill by the infant boys in uniform was well executed, the little ones acquitting themselves in rare style. "Our beautiful mountain home" was a chorus nicely rendered by the senior girls. The dumb-bell exercises by girls was also fully appreciated, their movements throughout being perfect. A song, in which Master A. Hombersley took the leading part, was warmly applauded; likewise the splendidly-played duet by Misses Quill and M'Leavey. The Spanish dance, by the senior girls, proved one of the most attractive items of the evening. "Bid me discourse," by Miss Dora Carroll, an ex-pupil of the institution, was a pleasing number. The pianoforte solo by Miss Rena Bartholomew was capitally played. An item by the junior pupils was received with applause, while Master A. Hombersley made the hit of the evening by his comic song. As a finale a striking tableau was staged, "The Crowning of the May Queen," and, with a well-rendered chorus, had a very nice effect. The accompaniments during the evening were played in a highly creditable manner by Misses Rena Bartholomew, Kathleen Quill, Flora M'Donald, Eileen Tompsitt, Ruby Stansell, Eva M'Leavey, and Ida Buck. Prior to the distribution of prizes Mr J. R. M'Donald stated that no doubt the parents of the children who had performed during the evening would be both pleased and happy to see the way their children had progressed. Every credit was due to the Sisters, who had been untiring in their efforts in helping the children, and at the speaker's desire three hearty cheers were given for them.

The following was the prize list:—

Christian Doctrine.—Class III (medal presented by Rev. Father Melu)—Lily Williams 1, Eileen Tompsitt 2; next in merit—Eva M'Leavey and John Gordon. Class I—Courtney O'Rourke 1, Kathleen Quill 2; next in merit, Mary Ahern. Class III—Athol Bennett 1, Brida O'Rourke 2; next in merit, Mary Ahern. Class I—Queenie Russo 1, Joseph Ayre 2; next in merit, Ruby Batten and Kathleen Lima.

Good Conduct (medal presented by Mrs O'Rourke).—Girls—Eva M'Leavey 1, Violet Landall 2; boys—Joseph Bennett 1, Christie Russo 2.

Politeness.—Senior girls, Flora M'Donald; junior girls, Victoria Chorley. Boys—Reginald Ryder 1, George Landall 2. Amiability.—Emma Jensen.

Singing.—Girls—Ruby Stansell 1, Agatha Hannan 2; next in merit, Maggie Kerrigan and Kathleen Quill. Boys—James Griffin 1, Arthur Hombersley 2; next in merit, Joseph Bennett.

Music.—Senior division—Reana Bartholomew 1, Kathleen Quill 2; junior division—Maggie Kerrigan 1, Aveline Dixon 2.

Sewing.—Senior division—Kathleen Quill 1, Enid Wallace 2; junior division—Eva Landall 1, Emma Bell 2.

Cooking.—Gertrude Weitzel 1, Flora M'Donald 2. Gardening.—Hugh Ahern 1, Joseph Ahern 2. Attendance.—Christie Russo 1, Winnie Hall 2, Eileen Tompsitt 3, Cyril Batten.