

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 22.

A month's mission, conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers, is to begin at St. Joseph's, Buckle street, to-morrow. The first fortnight will be for women, the second for men and children.

On Thursday evening next Mr. L. Reichel will deliver a lecture on his travels abroad. The lecture, which is to be open to the public, will be delivered in St. Patrick's Hall, under the auspices of the local Young Men's Club.

A progressive euchre party was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Friday evening by members of the Young Men's Club. There was a good attendance, and a most pleasant evening's entertainment was provided. The ladies' prize was won by Miss Emerson, the gentlemen's by Mr. C. Pfaff.

The first debate in the second round of the tournament arranged by the Wellington Literary and Debating Societies' Union was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening. The rival teams were—Messrs. Hall, Hunt, and Lowe for St. Peter's Club, and Messrs. Fitzgerald, Kane, and Moran for the Catholic Young Men's Club. Mr. T. H. Gill, M.A., LL.B., acted as judge. The subject of debate was 'That the expansion of the British Empire is due more to the colonising power of the nation than to military prowess.' After an interesting and able debate, the decision of the judge was given in favor of our representatives, who are now in the final. They will meet the representatives of St. John's Club in the concert chamber of the Town Hall on October 5. A great deal of interest centres in the contest, and it is sincerely hoped that our men will carry off the prize.

An enthusiastic meeting was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Thursday last under the auspices of the St. Patrick's College Old Boys' Association, when a cricket club was inaugurated as an adjunct of the association. The following was the result of the election of officers: President, Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., B.A.; vice-presidents, Rev. Father Kerley, Messrs. M. J. Crombie, J. J. Bourke, J. E. Butler, and W. R. S. Hickson; hon. secretary, Mr. Frank Ryan; hon. treasurer, Mr. Fred. W. Crombie; general committee, Messrs. C. Campbell, F. O'Sullivan, J. O'Connor, J. Quinn, and M. Sheridan; practice captain, Mr. J. O'Connor; match committee, Messrs. J. O'Connor, J. Quinn, and A. M. B. Duff; delegates to the Cricket Association, Messrs. F. Ryan and J. O'Connor. Trophies were donated by Rev. Father Bartley, Messrs. J. J. Bourke, J. E. Butler, and W. Nidd. Twenty-five active members were elected in the room, and a large increase is anticipated. Those members of the association not being active members are showing their interest in the formation of the club by joining as honorary members.

The Catholic Young Men's Club at Petone was definitely formed on Wednesday evening. Visitors from the city to assist in the establishment of the society included Messrs. E. J. Leydon, H. McKeown, J. J. Callaghan, J. McGowan, and P. J. McGovern, members of the Federation Executive. The following officers were elected:—Patron, Rev. Father Maples; president, Mr. A. Coles; vice-presidents, Messrs. Cronin, Meehan, Gaynor, Cox, Ryan, Cairns, Lynsky, Tomlinson, McGrath, and Jenkins; hon. secretary, Mr. P. Cairns; hon. treasurer, Mr. D. Jones; executive, Messrs. A. Cairns, S. Brice, P. Ryan, V. Marsh, O. Avison, J. Jackson, and W. Donovan. The work of erecting a club room on a site near the church of the Sacred Heart, Britannia street, is to be taken in hand shortly. The material will cost about £150, and the work is to be done by members of the club. The plans for the building, which will be 60ft x 25ft, have been donated by Mr. W. Croft, architect. Mr. Jenkins is giving fifty books to form the nucleus of a library, and other donations are promised. It is proposed to form a debating society in connection with the club.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

September 20.

The quarterly Communion of the members of the Catholic Club will be held on Sunday, September 30. Last night St. Mary's Catholic Club held another of their enjoyable progressive euchre parties, when

there was an attendance of about 150. The winners in the tournament were—gentlemen, Messrs. T. Clark and J. Roberts; ladies, Mrs. Bienvenue and Miss Duff.

It is with deep regret I have to record the death of Mr. William Turner at Wellington Hospital last week. The deceased was formerly a member of the Young Men's Club here, and was only twenty-nine years of age. He leaves a widow and one child to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

The local Garrison Band, with that kindness and forethought for which they are so noted, gave the patients of the Wanganui Hospital a musical treat last Sunday when, despite the adverse weather, a large concourse of people assembled on the grounds. The conductor, Mr. James Crichton, deserves great credit for the way he has brought the members on.

On Wednesday evening the members of the dramatic branch of St. Mary's Catholic Club held another rehearsal of the 'Ticket-of-Leave Man,' which they intend staging in November. The members showed on the last occasion when they produced the comedy 'Jane,' considerable histrionic ability. The club having been strongly reinforced are now attempting something more ambitious. A special feature of the production will be the scenery, which is now being painted by a well known scenic artist.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

September 21.

The many friends of Mr. Dupre, sen., will learn with regret that he is seriously ill.

Inspector Fleming conducted the annual examination at St. Patrick's school on Monday and Tuesday last, and of 101 pupils presented, 96 passed. The success achieved is highly creditable to the Sisters of St. Bride's Convent.

The annual meeting of St. Patrick's Day Sports' Association was held on Saturday evening. The secretary presented the financial statement for the year, showing a credit balance of £37 5s 5d. It was decided to hold the annual sports gathering on Thursday, March 14, 1907.

The following pupils of St. Bride's Convent were successful at the examination in musical knowledge, held in connection with Trinity College, London:—Intermediate honors, Coralie Smythson, 80. Intermediate pass, Muriel Grey, 74; Margery McKenna, 73. Junior honors, Margaret Collins, 94; Colina McKenzie, 89. Preparatory grade, Frances Duggan, 95.

A meeting of St. Michael's branch of H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Patrick's school last Tuesday, President Bro. O'Sullivan in the chair. Three candidates were proposed for membership. During the evening Bro. P. O'Leary was presented with a handsome framed emblem by the branch as a mark of their appreciation of his term as president. Bro. Moriarty, representing the 'Tablet,' was accorded a hearty welcome. The subscriptions received during the evening amounted to £16 4s 5d.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

September 24.

The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy (Provincial of the Marist Fathers) is in town. On Sunday night he preached at St. Mary's, Manchester street, and on next Sunday he is to preach at the Cathedral. He intends to prolong his stay for a fortnight or so, going to South Canterbury to perform the ceremony of opening the new presbytery that the Rev. Father Goggan is erecting at Temuka.

The Exhibition Buildings are fast approaching completion. Exhibits are now arriving in large quantities, and final arrangements are being hurried on to allow them to be placed in position. Since the appointment of the two new Commissioners by Sir Joseph Ward, the work of the various committees goes on smoothly, and all are sanguine of having everything in complete readiness for the opening in November.

The Rev. Father O'Connell, who has been for some weeks collecting in the North Canterbury districts on behalf of the Cathedral debt, returned to town last week. He expresses himself as greatly pleased with the result of his labors, and is loud in praise of the generosity of the people. Besides appointing him diocesan collector, his Lordship the Bishop, before leaving for Europe, commissioned him to organise a bazaar to be held in August next year, and it is the intention of the Rev. Father to start forthwith the initial preparations.