

# Diocesan News

## ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 5.

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Plunket, accompanied by the Hon. G. Fowlds, Minister for Education, Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.H.R., and the Mayors of Petone and Lower Hutt, paid a visit to the Catholic schools at Petone and Lower Hutt on Thursday. One of the boys read an address and one of the girls presented a bouquet to Lady Plunket. His Excellency expressed himself as being very pleased with all he saw and heard.

The mission by the Redemptorist Fathers was opened at St. Joseph's on Sunday morning in the presence of a large congregation. The services, which for the first fortnight are for women, have been very largely attended both in the morning and in the evening. During the week the Rev. Fathers Lowham and MacDermott have conducted the services. The Very Rev. Father Clune, who has now recovered from his indisposition, will preach during next week.

The members of the Catholic Young Men's Tennis Club are to open the season on Saturday afternoon. The court has been prepared, and a successful season is anticipated. The fee for membership has been fixed at a very modest sum, and by its central position this club offers advantages that should commend themselves to our young people. The privileges of the club are open not only to the members of the Young Men's Club and their lady friends, but also to the Catholic ladies of the city, whose attendance at any time is cordially invited. The members of the club proved very enthusiastic last year and held several social gatherings. This club, with ordinary support, is certainly well adapted for the work of making our people better known to one another, and promoting that spirit of comradeship which is the very life of every organisation.

The oratorical competition for the diploma, conferred on the local Young Men's Club by the Executive of the federated Catholic societies, took place in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening. The Rev. Father Macdonald, S.M., and Messrs. Loughnan and Fitzgibbon acted as judges. The following members took part in the contest: Messrs. J. McGowan, P. Witherington, P. Clarke, J. Fitzgerald, H. McKeown, and J. Sullivan. The subject for treatment was the late Mr. Seddon as a statesman and as a man. The general standard of the speeches was higher than that of the contest last year, but there was still the tendency to introduce much uninteresting matter of detail that detracted from a proper and complete handling of the theme. The delivery throughout was good and all the speakers gave evidence of having given the matter careful study. The judges awarded first place to Mr. J. Sullivan, and second place to Mr. H. McKeown. Mr. Sullivan's speech excelled the others in the originality of its matter and treatment. Mr. McKeown's was perhaps the best effort as far as delivery was concerned.

On Thursday evening the members of the local Young Men's Club assembled at St. Mary of the Angels' Church, at the invitation of their spiritual director, the Rev. Father Kimbell. The Rev. Father, addressing the members, said that he had called them together for the purpose of bringing under their notice some matters that concerned very much their spiritual and temporal welfare. He did not wish them to think that what he was about to say was being said because he felt that they had been wanting in their duties. That was not so, for while not wishing to flatter them, he knew that in general they led good lives. He desired, however, to impress more forcibly upon them certain truths and principles of conduct, that they might have a higher ideal of their place in life, and show by their lives an example to others. The Rev. Father then read a pastoral letter recently written by the Archbishop of Melbourne to the young men of his archdiocese. After reading this letter (which, by the way, should be carefully perused by every Catholic young man) the Rev. Father dealt with the several matters therein referred to. He took for his text the one word, 'Reverence,' and said that by it all the teachings of all the commandments could be summed up: Reverence for God, reverence for one's neighbor, reverence for one's self. All vice could on the other hand be expressed in the word 'irreverence.' The rev. preacher said he desired especially to refer to 'reverence for womankind'—that respect for women which transformed the world, and was so characteristic a feature of

the Christian Church, finding expression in the chivalry of the middle ages. The civilisation of any nation could be judged by the respect it paid to its women. Woman was at all times a mirror in which the nobility or degradation of an age was reflected. As sons of the Church they should always have the tenderest regard for the honor of women; they should ever show towards them the most courteous and chivalrous considerations. It was in this way that they could best do the work of their lay apostolate. Father Kimbell then referred to the subject of temperance. He spoke of the pernicious convention of 'treating' and, after pointing out the evils, implored his hearers in the name of the Church, in the name of their club, that should any of them find that the temptation was too strong they should take at once the means that lay in their power, they should take a pledge to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquor altogether. After the address Benediction was given. The Rev. Father created a very lasting impression by his address, which was both practical and effective.

## DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 8.

Rev. Father Hoare from St. Mary's parish preached at the Cathedral on Sunday night on the Sacrifice of the Mass. A procession of the Blessed Sacrament followed.

On Wednesday last a very successful bazaar was opened in Lincoln by Mrs. G. Rhodes for the purpose of raising funds to defray the expenses of a Catholic presbytery which the Rev. Father Richards is building in the parish. There was a large and representative gathering on the occasion, the clergy from the neighboring districts being much in evidence; and city people went out in large numbers to aid, and show their appreciation of, the popular pastor. The arrangements were complete in every respect. Much enthusiasm prevailed, and the results financially promise to be a great success.

The sixth annual meeting of the Christchurch Catholic Club was held on September 25. Mr. J. R. Hayward, president, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. The annual report stated that a tennis club was started early in the year, and was supported enthusiastically. The balance sheet showed receipts £108 19s 11d, expenditure £106 6s 2½d, balance £2 13s 8½d; assets, £116 4s 9d; liabilities, £15 15s 3½d, balance of assets over liabilities, £100 9s 5½d. The report and balance sheet were adopted. His Lordship Bishop Grimes and Sir George Clifford were reappointed to the position of patrons, and the Rev. Father Peoples to that of spiritual director. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. C. Laverty; vice-presidents, Mr. D. Edmonds and Mr. R. McNamara; treasurer, Mr. W. Hayward, jun.; secretary, Mr. J. L. Leydon; executive committee, Messrs D. H. Bourke, T. F. O'Shea, T. Adams, P. McNamara, and E. Turkington. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. Fathers O'Connell and Peoples. The meeting adjourned for a week to consider a proposed alteration of the rules.

## Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

October 8.

The Timaru Motor Bus Company has commenced business, and the hum of the cars as they speed along gives to the town a city-like air.

Subscriptions are coming in slowly for the Young Men's Club-room. It would be well if those who desired to contribute could see their way to forward their donations to the secretary or treasurer as early as possible.

A few weeks ago the teacher of bookkeeping in the Technical School gave his class a paper, which had been set before a similar class in Melbourne. By a peculiar coincidence or something else, of the four boys who got every question right, three are ex-pupils of the Marist Brothers' school.

The St. John's Tennis Club opened their courts on last Thursday afternoon, a large number of members and some visitors from other clubs being present. The day was a beautiful one, and the function passed off most successfully. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy and Father Le Floch visited the grounds during the afternoon.

The Railway authorities notify that excursion tickets will be issued from October 25 to April 2 in connection with the Christchurch Exhibition....