

On Labor Day the members of St. Joseph's Men's Club, the Ladies' Club, and the Boys' Club, to the number of 160, proceeded to Tairoa Heads by the 'Maheno.' They were accompanied by the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm. St. Joseph's Cathedral, Rev. Father Lynch (Palmerston), Rev. Father Hearn (Port Chalmers), Rev. Father Corcoran, Rev. Brother Brady, etc. The day was beautifully fine, and the trip down the Harbor was much enjoyed. During the day the excursionists amused themselves in various ways, a cricket match between scratch teams attracting a share of attention. The excursionists left Harrington Point on the return journey at a quarter to five, arriving in town about a quarter past six.

A very enjoyable musical and dramatic entertainment was given in the Sacred Heart School, North-East Valley, on Thursday evening of last week, the object being to raise funds to wipe off a small debt on this neat and well-finished building. The attendance was large, and those present testified by their frequent applause that the entertainment provided was highly satisfactory, and what was perhaps most gratifying of all was an announcement made during the evening by the Rev. Father Coffey that the funds raised were quite sufficient to extinguish the debt. The concert part of the programme opened with a tableau—song and dance—by the children, which reflected credit upon the little ones and their teachers. The Young Girls' Club rehearsed a scene from 'Fabiola,' in which considerable dramatic talent was displayed, and this item, like the one above-mentioned, was warmly applauded. Songs were rendered with good effect by Mrs. King, Misses M. Mellick, King, Reinhardt, and Wood, which in each instance won the plaudits of the audience. Mrs. Thurston contributed a selection from Italian opera, 'Tu che Adoro,' with considerable effect, and songs were given by Messrs. C. King, Cooke, and T. J. Anthony in a capable manner. The other concert performers were Miss King, who contributed a pianoforte solo; Mr. J. Hill, who gave a descriptive recitation; and Mr. J. Wood, whose clarinet solo was a careful piece of instrumentation. The entertainment concluded with a farcical comedy, entitled 'Captain Neverwed's Housekeeping,' in which the characters were sustained by the Orion Dramatic Company, and which provoked considerable merriment. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Misses King and Bernech.

On Sunday at the nine o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral the members of the St. Joseph's Men's Club, the Ladies' Club, and the Boys' Club to the number of about 130 approached the Holy Table. His Lordship the Bishop, in the course of his sermon congratulated the clubs on the progress made during the year, complimented them on their good work, and exhorted the congregation to assist and encourage the clubs in every way. After Mass the members of the various clubs proceeded to St. Joseph's Hall, where breakfast was provided by the Ladies' Club. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and there were also present Rev. Father Coffey, Adm. (president of the Men's Club), Rev. Father Cleary, and Rev. Father Corcoran (president of the Boys' Club). When justice had been done to the good things provided by the ladies, Mr. Deehan (vice-president of the Men's Club) thanked his Lordship for his presence amongst them, and also for the interest he had at all times taken in, and the encouragements he had given to, the clubs connected with St. Joseph's Hall, and trusted that the present function would become an annual one. His Lordship, in reply, expressed his pleasure at seeing so many members receive Holy Communion that morning, congratulated the clubs on their progress during the season, and also on the success which had attended their various functions during the year. The Bishop also expressed his pleasure at the success of the Boys' Club, and trusted that during the coming year the success of all clubs would even be more marked than it had been in the present one. On the motion of Mr. J. B. Callan, jun., a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Ladies' Club for their hospitality, and Mr. Hussey replied on their behalf. Rev. Father Coffey also briefly addressed the meeting, expressing his pleasure at the numbers who had received Holy Communion that morning, and also at the good attendance, especially of young men, at the breakfast.

Messrs. Cooke, Howlison, and Co., Gt. King St., Dunedin, call attention to their superior stock of B.S.A. Pattern and 'Record' Bicycles, F.N. Motors and Vindec Special Motors, for which they are sole agents in New Zealand. Persons about to purchase bicycles or motors should call and inspect the firm's stock before going elsewhere....

HOKITIKA

(From our own correspondent.)

There was a good attendance of members present at the Catholic Debating Society's meeting held on September 25. The president, before commencing the business of the meeting, stated he had a pleasant duty to perform that evening. That day the Rev. Father Aubry was celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and the society could not let the occasion pass without presenting their spiritual director with some slight token of their esteem. He extended the hearty congratulations of the society to the Rev. Father Aubry, and then called on Mr. W. A. Dixon to make the presentation. Mr. Dixon, on behalf of the society, asked Rev. Father Aubry to accept an enlarged photograph of the late Ven. Dean Martin, as a mark of appreciation for the excellent services he had rendered to the society. Messrs. Daly and Burger testified to the good work done by their spiritual director. Rev. Father Aubry thanked the society for their beautiful present, stating he would treasure it as a memento of the many pleasant days spent amongst them.

The Catholic Debating Society brought the session to a close on the evening of October 9, with an oratorical competition, held in St. Mary's schoolroom. The president occupied the chair, and the Rev. Father Taylor (Greymouth) Mr. J. Park, and the Mayor (Mr. Michel) acted as judges. There were four competitors, who with the subject of their addresses were:—Messrs. M. Daly ('Mr. Michael Davitt'), W. Dixon ('President Diaz, of Mexico'), W. Cuttance ('Oliver Cromwell'), and J. Sellers ('R. J. Seddon'). After the speeches, Mr. Park announced the result of the competition, first place being awarded Mr. Sellers, and second to Mr. Daly. All the speakers, he said, had done remarkably well, and he was quite pleased with their speeches. The Mayor congratulated the competitors on their very pleasing discourses, saying he had spent a very pleasant hour, and concluded by wishing the Debating Society every success in the future. Rev. Father Aubry stated he would, in the course of a few days, be in receipt of the diplomas from the executive of the federation of Catholic Young Men's Societies, for presentation to the successful candidates. He congratulated all the competitors, and especially the winner (Mr. Sellers).

LOWER HUTT

(From our travelling correspondent.)

The members of the Lower Hutt branch of the H.A.C.B. Society met on Thursday evening, October 4, to do honor to their first past-president, Bro. Hodgins, who, since the inception of the branch, has taken the deepest interest in its welfare. Visitors were present from the Wellington and Waimate branches, and from the Petone Young Men's Club. The chair was occupied by the president, Bro. C. O'Brien. After the usual toast of the 'Pope and the King,' Bro. Mc Manus proposed that of the 'Past President,' and spoke of the good qualities possessed by that gentleman. Bro. Callaghan, secretary of the Wellington branch, then presented to Bro. Hodgins, on behalf of the Lower Hutt Society, with a beautifully framed past-president's certificate, and trusted that he would long be spared to continue his good work as a member of the H.A.C.B. Society. Bro. Hodgins, in a brief speech, acknowledged the honor that had been conferred on him, and assured his hearers that he would never cease to take a real live interest in all matters pertaining to the advancement of Hibernianism. Songs and recitations were contributed by Bros. B. O'Brien, A. Parker, J. Hayes, M. Hodgins, and Moriarty. The accompaniments were played by Bro. Mc Menamin.

Lower Hutt just now presents a very busy appearance, buildings being erected on all sides. A fine new theatre is in course of erection, and what with the new post office just opened and the many fine residences in various stages of completion, the place bids fair to become the largest inland town in the North Island.

The challenge shield for competition in card matches amongst the various Friendly Societies in the Hutt has this year been won by the Hibernian Society, who have concluded the season by winning five out of six games.

Messrs. Bradley Bros., Colombo street, Christchurch, make a special study of stained glass windows, true in style and architectural fitness. The firm guarantees all workmanship and material to be of the very highest quality. Designs and prices will be forwarded on application....