

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

November 12.

The annual retreat for ladies will be held as usual in the convent next year, commencing on January 9.

The convent chapel, by reason of its appointments and its style of architecture, has been considered since its erection one of the nicest of its kind in New Zealand. Lately its walls have been adorned by some beautiful paintings. Behind the altar there is a beautiful representation of Our Lord with attendant angels hovering round, the whole being most artistic.

A popular wedding was celebrated last Monday in the Sacred Heart Church by the Rev. Father Bowden, the contracting parties being Miss C. McGuinness, of Timaru, and Mr. J. Skinner, of Aberdeen, Scotland. Miss Brick, of Christchurch, was bridesmaid, and Mr. M. J. Doyle was best man. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. N. McGuinness. The marriage ceremony was followed by a Nuptial Mass. The organist (Mrs. Mangos) played the Wedding March as the happy couple left the church—a tribute to the bride for her long, devoted, and successful service as leader of the choir. The wedding breakfast was laid at the residence of Mr. N. Mangos, brother-in-law of the bride, and quite a large number of guests were present. Rev. Father Bowden paid a well deserved tribute to the good work done in the parish by the bride, and wished the newly-wedded couple every blessing and happiness. Rev. Father Finnerly was among the guests, as also were the members of the choir. The wedding presents were numerous and valuable. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner left by the afternoon train for Fairlie on their honeymoon.

Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

November 6.

There was a large attendance at the St. Columba Club on Tuesday evening, October 30, the attraction being the competition for the diploma presented by the Federated Societies' Executive. The following members competed: Messrs. C. Simon, A. Fraser, R. C. Heffernan, W. Duffy, D. Butler, C. Carmine, and T. O'Donnell. Most of the members showed they had made a keen study of the subject, and some very good speeches were delivered. The judges, after much deliberation, gave their decision in favor of Mr. Donald Butler.

A very pleasing ceremony took place on Saturday night at Mr. C. Smith's drapery establishment, when the employees assembled to say good-bye to Miss Nellie Thompson, who is severing her connection with the firm. Mr. E. J. Smith, in making the presentation, which consisted of a handsome gold granny chain, referred in eulogistic terms to Miss Thompson, and expressed the firm's regret at losing the services of such a capable and painstaking young lady, and concluded by wishing her every success in the future. Mr. R. C. Heffernan returned thanks on behalf of Miss Thompson, and thanked the donors for their handsome present, which would always remind her of the happy days spent amongst them. Miss Thompson leaves in a few days for Wellington.

The members of the St. Columba Club held a very successful entertainment in the club rooms last Wednesday evening, the object being to obtain a supply of new books for the library. The entertainment consisted of musical and vocal items, guessing and other competitions. The club's orchestra rendered three items in its best style, and Miss Rose Weber and Mr. Allen contributed songs, which were much appreciated, whilst Masters Condon and Campbell entertained the audience with recitations. Another excellent item was the dumbbell drill by a squad of boys from the Marist Brothers' school, which was received with rounds of applause. Miss Phillips presided over the refreshment room. The entertainment proved a great success, the takings for the evening amounting to £19. After paying all expenses the library fund will benefit to the extent of about £14, which is considered highly satisfactory. The thanks of the club are due to the ladies' committee, who worked hard to make the entertainment the great success which it proved.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

November 8.

The roof is now being put on the sacristy situated on the northern side of St. Patrick's Cathedral. The whole work is going rapidly ahead.

A concert in aid of the Father Walter memorial church, Ellerslie, was given by St. John's choir, Parnell, in Cairns' Hall, Ellerslie, last Wednesday evening, and was a pronounced success.

The mortuary services held annually on the first Sunday after All Souls' Day were held last Sunday afternoon in the Symond Street Cemetery. At the appointed hour a goodly number of people gathered from the parishes in and around the city. The clergy present were Very Rev. Father Gillan, Rev. Fathers Mahoney, Holbrook, and McMillan. After the choir of St. Benedict's, under Mr. S. Jackson, had sung appropriate music, the whole body, priests and people, formed in processional order, and walked through the cemetery, reciting the Rosary. At its conclusion the assemblage again mustered around the cross, and the Rev. Father Mahoney, of Onehunga, addressed those present, and reminded them of the faithful departed. He enjoined upon all to constantly pray for the repose of the souls of the dead. Prayers for the dead were then offered up by all present. The priests, accompanied by the altar boys, then returned to St. Benedict's Church. A public meeting was afterwards held in St. Benedict's schoolroom, presided over by the Very Rev. Father Gillan, when the annual balance sheet of the Auckland Catholic Cemetery Board was read by the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. M. J. Sheahan. It showed that after a liberal expenditure on the cemetery, a credit balance remained of £30. Much needed work had been left undone, but the committee's resources were limited, consequently it was much hampered. A vote of thanks was passed to Father Gillan for his untiring efforts as chairman of the Board, much of its success being due to him. Father Gillan briefly returned thanks, and the meeting terminated. The collection taken at the cemetery gates amounted to £9.2s.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

November 8.

Messrs. Edgar McDonald and W. Power have been elected joint librarians of the St. Mary's Catholic Club.

I regret to record the death of Mrs. Stokes, wife of Mr. J. Stokes. The deceased, who passed away on November 1, leaves four young children to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

The arrival of Mr. J. Stanbury, ex-champion sculler of the world, has created a great stir in aquatic circles, and has led to a deal of discussion as to whether the local man, W. Webb, will be able to defeat him on Boxing Day. At 11 o'clock and 4 o'clock daily there is quite a number of interested spectators watching the two rivals on the river.

The entries for the forthcoming Show of the Wanganui Agricultural Association total no less than 2516, of which 1169 are in the home industries section. This total is a record for New Zealand, and if the quality of the exhibits is only up to their number, which will probably turn out to be the case, the fixture should be one of the most successful held to date in the Colony. It will not be the fault of the secretary, Mr. Selby Morton, and his assistants if such is not the case.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

As was to be expected the attendance at the Exhibition was very good during the past week. The beautiful weather which prevailed and the attractions of the Agricultural Show, etc., brought great crowds of visitors to Christchurch, so that up to Wednesday evening the total admissions since the opening six days amounted to 107,000. Up to the present the visitors from Australia are comparatively few, but it is expected that very many people will be over here after Christmas. The great attractiveness of the Exhibition is yet to be made more widely known in the Commonwealth, and it is well-known that the great majority of people in New Zealand are not yet fully acquainted with its vast extent and importance.

On Thursday upwards of 10,000 visited the A. and P. Association's Show, whilst the admissions during the day to the Exhibition totalled 15,000, being 122,000 to date.

Miss Marie Narelle and her company were to have given a concert in the main concert hall on Thursday, but the company declined to appear owing to the Exhibition orchestra being engaged to provide free music in the main corridor. The contention of Miss Nar-