

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

November 17.

The annual sports of St. Patrick's College are to eventuate on November 30.

A public meeting is being called for Monday evening next to consider arrangements for the reception of the Irish envoys.

During the week the Rev. Father Lowham, C.S.S.R., has been preaching a retreat to the pupils and boarders of St. Mary's Convent, Hill street. The Very Rev. Father Clune and Rev. Father MacDermott have left for Christchurch to conduct a mission at the Cathedral. Father Lowham is to go south next week.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration is to begin in the Sacred Heart Basilica to-morrow. Sunday night's sermon will be preached by Rev. Father Ainsworth. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., will preach on Monday evening.

A social function will be held in St. Patrick's Hall on Tuesday evening next, when the diploma recently won by the Catholic Debating Society is to be presented by Sir Robert Stout. On Monday evening the winner of the oratorical contest on 'Irish Heroes' will be the recipient of a gold medal from the executive of the club.

As reported in this column some time ago, the sum of £1500 was promised towards the erection of a building for a Catholic club provided a like amount was raised from others. I am pleased to say that £400 of this amount has been promised, and some of our young men have now on hand the canvass of our more fortunate parishioners to obtain the balance.

The results disclosed from time to time by the several musical examinations held within the Colony show very clearly the high standard of musical training given in our convents. Although it has not been very long in existence, the Convent of St. Joseph, South Wellington, has already gained a fair share of the honors, and for voice production alone quite a large number of pupils are in regular attendance at the convent. Arrangements have been made to hold a concert in St. Thomas' Hall on the 29th inst. This will be the first public concert given by the pupils, and the people of South Wellington may confidently look forward to a real musical treat.

The recent success of four of our young men in winning the harrier teams' race has led to the formation of an amateur athletic club in connection with the local Young Men's Club. A largely attended meeting was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Thursday evening, and the initial steps were taken to promote amateur athletics and harrier running among members of the club. The election of officers resulted as follows: Club captain, Mr. J. Prendeville; vice-captain, Mr. M. Mulcahy; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. McKeown; hon. secretary, Mr. C. Gamble; general committee, Messrs. J. J. Callaghan, J. Davis, W. Hamilton, and M. Prendeville; delegate to centre, Mr. C. Gamble. It has been decided to enter teams for the relay race in connection with the Civil Service Club's sports. It is further proposed to arrange a series of evening meetings during the present season.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

November 17.

The St. Mary's Dramatic Club intend staging 'The Ticket of Leave Man' on December 3 and December 6. After the Court of Appeal had given judgment against the Borough Council in the action against the Wanganui College Trustees in the matter of rating the college property, the Council's solicitor advised the Council that the Villa Maria Convent grounds and buildings were not rateable.

During this month the parishioners will visit the local cemetery every Sunday afternoon to offer up prayers for the faithful departed. The nuns lead in the Rosary at the foot of the large cross in the graveyard, the children and parishioners responding. This pious custom was introduced by the late Dean Kirk.

At the local Opera House last night Mdle. Dolores gave the large audience a rare musical treat. She gave a delightful selection from her phenomenal repertoire, and whether her songs were serious or jolly, her interpretation was faultless. She gave in all ten items. The wonderful range of her voice and her dramatic talent

were displayed to great advantage. Her voice is as powerful as it is sweet, but she never forces it, and always appears to have plenty of strength in reserve.

Wanganui show was held on Wednesday and Thursday, and the town and association have every reason to be pleased. On both days the weather was splendid and the attendance constituted a record. In the ladies' leaping competition Miss Nixon, whose horse fell heavily at one of the hurdles, was badly bruised. She was removed to the ambulance room in an unconscious condition, and she did not recover consciousness till late last night (Thursday). Mr. T. W. Howie by using his whip in trying to keep back the crowd frightened his horse which bolted and collided with the post and wire fence, giving Mr. Howie a severe fall. He is, I am pleased to say, recovering. Cattle, horses, and other sections were well represented, and quality was well maintained all through.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

November 19.

Mr. M. Nolan returned last week from an extended tour in the Old Country.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes has arranged to leave Europe on his return to the diocese on January 13, visiting the Holy Land en route.

An informal meeting in anticipation of the visit of the Irish delegates, Messrs. Devlin and Donovan, to Christchurch, is convened for Tuesday evening. This will probably be followed by a representative public meeting at an early date to still further the object of their mission.

The following candidates from the two city convents were successful at the local practical examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music:—St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street.—Pianoforte, lower: Edith Chamberlain, Jane Donnelly, Muriel Simpson, Hannah Ryan. Monastery of the Sacred Heart, Barbadoes street.—Local Centre: Pianoforte, intermediate—Annie Riordan. School: Pianoforte, higher—Dorothy Amyes. Eileen Poff. Lower—Alice Rainbow (distinction). Elementary—Phoebe Scott. Primary—Sarah Ansen (distinction), Annie Cookley, Ida Grange (distinction), Kathleen O'Malley.

New attractions are being added to the Exhibition and out-door side-shows now very frequently. Although at present the time is a comparatively quiet one, the attendance is keeping up wonderfully well. As a pleasure resort, and one of interest from an educational point of view, the great show has caught on marvellously. Hotelkeepers and others providing accommodation are realising the fact that numbers are deferring a visit owing to a mistaken idea that has apparently seized upon the people of the Colony generally that there is existing here a state of chronic overcrowding, and that there is no chance of suitable lodgings being obtained. Such, however, is not so, and at no time, even in carnival week, was there an absolute scarcity. As a matter of simple fact thousands can be provided for in safety and comfort.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

November 19.

Miss Marie Narelle is giving two concerts here this week, and the Hibernians are making all arrangements to give her a good reception.

In a letter just received from the Old Country the writer stated that he had seen our parish priest, Rev. Father Tubman, and added that he was looking well, and expected to be back in New Zealand about the end of March.

Mrs. N. D. Mangos, the church organist, has unfortunately been successful with her pupils in the various musical examinations, but never has such success attended her work as at the Trinity College professional examinations held here in July, the results of which came to hand during the past week. The ladies who received their musical training from her secured the following distinctions:—Misses E. Twomey, E. Dennehy, L. Steward and Porter (A.T.C.L.); Miss G. Vavasour (pass), and Miss M. Ward (L.T.C.L.). The last-named obtained the licentiate, as she secured honors in the recent practical examination. The Misses Ward and Vavasour are being educated at the Sacred Heart Convent. Mrs. Mangos also taught Miss A. Skerratt for the licentiate, she obtained at the Associated Boards' examination last week. Miss Fitzgerald, L.A.B., another Catholic teacher, succeeded in obtaining the A.T.C.L. diploma for her sister, Miss E. Fitzgerald.