

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From an occasional correspondent.)

May 17.

The handsome high altar for the Church of St. Gerard (Redemptorist Fathers), Hawker street, will be erected by Messrs. Mickmott and Son, and is estimated to cost £470.

At the annual meeting of the delegates to the Wellington Debating Union, Messrs. A. H. Casey, A. C. Bretherton, and E. P. O'Donnell, of the Catholic Club, were elected vice-president, general secretary, and treasurer respectively.

At the monthly meeting of the men's branch of the Sacred Heart Association, which was held in St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, last Sunday, there were present about 120 members. One new member was elected. Very Rev. Father O'Shea preached an impressive sermon, taking for his text, 'Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.' After the instructions the executive of the Catholic Club interviewed the members of the congregation with reference to becoming members of the club, the result being that the membership has been greatly added to. It was mentioned that the new club rooms would be ready in about five months.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph from an occasional correspondent.)

May 19.

On Wednesday evening last, at Remuera, the Rev. Father O'Donnell, who has just returned from an extended tour of the world, delivered a most interesting lecture on 'Ireland in and of the hands of the local branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.' Mr. Fallon, president of the Society, presided, and introduced the Rev. lecturer. A very large audience, when completely filled St. Mary's Hall, listened with rapt attention as Father O'Donnell conducted them from Auckland, via Naples, Rome and Paris, to Ireland. Fully 200 views of the historical and beauty spots of the Old Land were thrown on the screen, while many interesting details concerning them were narrated by the lecturer. Father O'Donnell dwelt at some length on cattle driving in Ireland, and vigorously denounced the secular press for the unfair manner in which it deals with this and other Irish questions. Towards the end of the lecture, Father O'Donnell spoke eloquently on the life and work of Daniel O'Connell and concluded his remarks with the words: 'Of all the great men that our race has produced, there was none more illustrious or more worthy of imitation than Daniel O'Connell. He devoted his whole life to the uplifting and advancement of his people, and never forgot that, while he was an Irishman, he was also a Christian and a Catholic. What could be more noble than his last words: 'My body to Ireland, my heart to Rome, and my love to God, etc.' During the evening, national songs were rendered by Mr. Pritchard, and Misses Lorrman and Carrigan, while Miss Anderson presided at the piano.

Mr. Fallon moved a vote of thanks to Father O'Donnell, which was enthusiastically carried. The funds of the Society will be considerably benefited by proceeds of the lecture.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

May 18.

The usual weekly meeting of the Catholic Club was held on Tuesday evening. Owing to the boisterous weather, there was but a small attendance. Seven candidates were proposed for membership. The programme for the evening was the debate, 'Should bachelors be taxed?' Brother Alfred and Messrs. Morton Scully, Maher, McMullin, Crawford and Grace, support in the proposition, and Messrs. Sims, Pound, Byrne, and Donnelly speaking against. A vote being taken, the proposition was carried by a majority of one.

It is very gratifying to note the progress and improvement in the Hibernian Brass Band. It is but six months since they received instruments, and by steady and consistent practice, under their able conductor, Mr. A. R. Wills, they have already secured engagements for the winter months, occupying their time, three nights a week. At a meeting, held on Wednesday evening, it was decided to affiliate with the Otago and Southland Brass Bands Association and to compete at the next contest to be held in October.

The Athletic Football Club, secured their second victory last week, when they met and defeated the Southern Club by 14 points to nil. The second fifteen also met the Southern second, and defeated them by 14 points to nil. The Marist Brothers' boys, playing their first match in the schools' football competition, beat the South school by 11 points to 5.

Hastings

(From our own correspondent.)

May 15.

About thirty young ladies of the parish were received into the Society of Mary on Sunday evening last. The ceremony was performed by Very Rev. Dean Smyth, assisted by Rev. Father Quinn. A sermon appropriate to the occasion, was preached by Dean Smyth. There was a very large congregation.

The Young Men's Club has accepted a challenge from the Palmerston North Catholic Club to a debate, which will take place in the latter town on June 3. The question for the debate will be, 'Is conscription desirable for the British Empire?' The local Club has decided to take the affirmative side. The number of debaters on each side will be three.

THE 'EVA' FUND

We have received a sum of £1 for the 'Eva' of the 'Nation' fund from Mr. Maurice O'Connor, Woolcombe street, Wellington, also a cheque for £3 18s 6d from the Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, Gore, being amount collected in the Gore district by Mr. Daniel Ryan for the same fund.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

READER.—Yes. He was a convert.

We have received a communication from Ohingaiti, which we cannot make use of owing to the writer not having forwarded his name and address.

Correspondents should note that all communications intended for publication should reach this office not later than Tuesday morning. Only brief paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received on the morning of publication. This week, owing to correspondents not observing this rule, several communications have to be considerably condensed or held over until our next issue.

We draw attention to Messrs. S. Kirkpatrick and Co's advertisement re 'K' Jams. We understand from the firm that the new season's pack of 'K' jams and preserves is now being placed in the market. The 'K' brand has a well deserved reputation for quality and purity. Situated in sunny Nelson with abundance of supreme orchard fruitage at their command, with a model factory and equipment, Messrs. S. Kirkpatrick and Co., are able to manufacture goods that have a reputation for excellence all over New Zealand and in the Commonwealth.

Some members of the congregation of a certain country church have been trying to obtain acetylene lighting in the church they attend, and the matter has languished somewhat, with the result that the following gem recently appeared in the local paper:—

'At church our lamps burn very dim,
One scarce can read the evening hymn,

The evening psalm to chant:
There was some talk some time ago,
Of getting lamps of brighter glow,
One then might hope to sing with pleasure,
And sing to tune, and time, and measure,
With the present lamps we want.

Sometime within the future dim,
We'll see to chant and sing the hymn,
And have our school extended
A path beside the river's way,
And other footpaths firm and dry
And these few troubles ended.'

If this doesn't secure the light, and get their troubles ended, we don't know what will. (No comments allowed on this).

If you are suffering in a similar manner, please call and see the 'NEW ZEALAND ACETYLENE GAS LIGHTING COMPANY, LTD.,

32 Octagon,

Dunedin