

tion, but it is not so. It happens that many of our people only know what is absolutely necessary of their religion in order to prepare them for the reception of the sacraments. There is a deep ignorance of the Catholic teaching; Catholics are very often unable to defend their religion, or to explain the Catholic doctrines, or what is meant by this or that special ceremony of the Catholic Church. There was no profession in the world in which people would content themselves with the little knowledge that many of our people had of their religion. The medical, legal, and fashion world were quoted as instances to which so much time and attention were devoted in order to secure all the information possible, but with regard to the knowledge of their religion many people were content to do with the smallest possible amount. People nowadays have to deal with new phases of religious thought, and to meet new difficulties, yet they do not prepare themselves with the proper weapons which were to be found only in Catholic literature. In fact, he might say that the Catholic newspaper was better than a Catholic book, because it visited them every week; it was a messenger which brought a new message; it put before its readers the progress of the Catholic Church not only in the Dominion of New Zealand, but in Australia, Europe, and in America, and everywhere the Catholic newspaper was not only a purveyor of news, but was a medium of thought, which would bring before them the opinions of the Catholic men in other parts of the world; it told them the history of the Catholic Church—of that Church which converts the heathen everywhere; which has founded universities in places where it was possible to do so, which provides Catholic schools for the poor, which sanctifies the marriage tie and denounces divorce, which teaches the duties of the employers and employed, which has never feared or bowed before the tyrant, and which has never failed in times of persecution. While such a newspaper gives everything connected with the Catholic faith, it, moreover, gives warning when there is danger; it defends them, it acts when needed, it promotes the social interests in every department of life, and it advocates the principles of justice and morality. The Very Rev. Father asked who would define the Catholic standpoint—the Catholic position; the Catholic newspaper alone would do it. It gave all the information necessary to form opinion with regard to religious and social questions; it provided the argument necessary in order to uphold that opinion. Day after day misrepresentation of the Church or false teachings were introduced, and what will expose the falsity of such but the Catholic newspaper? They were very well provided for in New Zealand in that respect; they had a paper which compared most favorably with any other newspaper in the world, and they had a man at the head of that paper who is, indeed, a man of great ability and in literary warfare is second to none. Finally, he strongly urged upon his hearers, who were not already subscribers to the 'Tablet,' to hand in their names to the representative of the paper, who was in their midst at the time.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

July 11.

The Catholic Club and the Catholic Tennis Club have decided to combine forces for the purpose of holding a social gathering in the Sydney Street Schoolroom on July 30.

The St. Aloysius branch of the Hibernian Society is to hold its half-yearly meeting on Monday evening. This branch has been making good progress during the past few months, and quite a number of new members have been admitted.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of Mercy began at the Convent, Hill street, on Wednesday, and will conclude on Sunday. The retreat is being preached by the Rev. Father MacDermott, C.S.S.R.

Shifting operations have commenced in connection with the removal of the Dixon Street School to Sussex square. The new building at Dixon street, used as a High School, will be removed in sections to the new site.

The Very Rev. Father Regnault (Provincial) has definitely removed to Wellington. His headquarters for the future will be at St. Mary of the Angels' Presbytery, Boulcott street. The clergy are respectfully requested to note the address.

On July 22 the South Wellington parish will hold a social gathering in aid of the schools. The gathering will take place in the Victoria Hall.

The Very Rev. Father Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., and the Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., represented the local clergy at the funeral of the late Very Rev. Father Marnane, S.M.

The St. Patrick's College boys have so far had a most successful tour. They followed their success over the Nelson boys by defeating both the St. John's College and the Grammar School teams. The behaviour of the boys both off and on the field has been most favorably noticed. The greatest kindness and consideration have been everywhere shown them.

The Wellington Shakespeare Club's reading competition, which is now open to our schools, eventuates on September 19. Two prizes—one for the best boy reader, and one for the best girl reader—are to be given. A boy and a girl from each school are to take part in the competition. For boys the prepared reading test will be Shylock's speech, act I., scene 3, from 'The Merchant of Venice'; for girls, Jessica's speech, act V., scene 1, from 'The Merchant of Venice,' followed by Lorenzo's speech. It is to be hoped our pupils will be encouraged to take an interest in the competition.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Monday evening last. The election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted as follows:—President, Bro. J. W. Callaghan; vice-president, Bro. Martin Mahoney; secretary, Bro. P. D. Hoskins; treasurer, Bro. T. O'Brien; assistant secretary, Bro. B. Nolan; warden, Bro. J. McMahon; sick visitors, Bros. Condon and O'Callaghan; auditors, Bros. Moroney and Sullivan. Six candidates were proposed, and two candidates initiated. The cash receipts at the half-yearly and quarterly meetings totalled the sum of one hundred pounds. The members of the society throughout the Dominion intend to place a magnificent window, with the figure of St. Patrick depicted thereon, in the new church now being erected at Mount St. Gerard, Wellington, for the Redemptorist Fathers. The gift is meant as a token of appreciation of the splendid work done by the Redemptorists for the cause of Hibernianism in New Zealand.

Owing to the growth of the parish, the authorities at Te Aro some time ago decided that a change in the location of the schools and the provision of additional schools were urgent needs. This very desirable scheme will, of course, entail a considerable expense, and to lighten the burden a social gathering is to be held under Church auspices on August 5. A short circular has been issued to parishioners by the Rev. Father Venning making an appeal for help in the new school movement. Those that have any experience of property values in the city and that can form a fairly correct idea of the future expansion that is likely to take place will agree that the action of the authorities in acquiring sites and erecting new schools is both wise and desirable. There is good reason, then, to ask that the Town Hall should be crowded on the occasion of the coming social.

The newly-formed Catholic Club at South Wellington met on Monday evening in the schoolroom. The chair was occupied by Mr. D. Moriarty. The Rev. Father Herring, S.M., informed the meeting that the parish authorities were willing to allow the sum of £200 towards the erection of club rooms. On the motion of Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon, it was unanimously decided to express to the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy the club's sincere appreciation of his kindly interest and practical assistance. Officers were elected as follows:—Patron, Ven. Archdeacon Devoy; president, Mr. D. Moriarty; vice-presidents, Rev. Fathers Herbert and Herring, Messrs. Andrews, Collins, and Houldsworth; secretary, Mr. James Fitzgibbon; treasurer, Mr. James Butler; committeemen, Messrs. Guise, Moynihan, Leydon, A. Guthrie, Strickland, Peters, Darroch, Williams, and Gamble; chairman of Literary Society, Rev. Father Herbert, S.M.; vice-chairman, Mr. P. J. Moran. The club is to be congratulated on having a chairman of its Literary Society such a capable enthusiast as is the Rev. Father Herbert, under whose guidance the City Club made such good progress. Regarding the erection of club rooms, it is intended that a great part of the work will be done by the members themselves under the direction of Mr. Darroch. The club certainly begins its career under most favorable conditions. For the present the meetings will be weekly, on Thursdays, in the schoolrooms.

LANGFORD and RHIND

... (late W. and H. Langford), ...
16 LONDON ST. Phone 689

Funeral Furnishers
and Embalmers

Christchurch

Addresses—HERBERT LANGFORD, 16 London St., Richmond Phone 689
JOHN RHIND, 48 Montreal St., Sydenham. Phone 1606

Town Office—287 CASHEL ST.
Telephone 612