

the gallery. The baths will accommodate 1000 bathers per diem, which should cope with the greatest of demands.

Great preparations are being made locally for the reception of the officers of the American fleet and Parliamentary party on their arrival. Owing to the party arriving in Rotorua late on Wednesday night, the formal reception will not take place until the following morning. The main feature of the reception will be the Maori ceremony, which will commence as the party arrives at the Government gardens. At the conclusion of the reception the beautiful new bath buildings, erected for the Tourist Department, will be opened by Sir Joseph Ward. In the afternoon the party will be given an opportunity of viewing the weird and wonderful sights of Whakarewarewa, where the Wairoa geyser, acting under a saponaceous influence, will be called upon for a display. It is estimated that the party will consist of 500 persons in all.

During the past week a complimentary social was tendered to the Rotorua Town Band by Dean Lightheart and the late bazaar committee. The function was an unqualified success, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. In a short address the Dean spoke highly of the charitable spirit displayed by the band; all denominations had had the services of the band gratuitously, and whenever any charitable objects were promoted locally the band's services were cheerfully and freely given. He considered the band one of Rotorua's greatest assets, and he was proud, as head of the Catholic Church in Rotorua, of the fact that his congregation was the first to show recognition of the band's services. He also stated that at the late bazaar the band played for two hours each evening, and demanded nothing; and now he was exceedingly pleased to say that through the untiring efforts of the committee he was able to hand to the band, as a slight recognition of their services, a cheque for £23. Other felicitous speeches were also made, after which the members of the band were the guests of Dean Lightheart and the committee at supper.

Father Holierhoek, who recently returned from a visit to the Old Country, spent a few days in Rotorua, on his way to Matata, where he takes up his permanent residence. The rev. gentleman undertook the trip Home owing to ill-health, and has returned completely cured of a malady from which he suffered for over twenty years. In relating the story of his cure, Father Holierhoek says: 'While still at college, some twenty odd years ago, I met with an accident to my leg, and, gangrene setting in, the wound never healed. It was with the greatest difficulty that I carried out my work among the Maoris, and eventually, after twenty years, my health broke down. I determined on a visit to the Old Country, and went to Lourdes. Here I remained some time at the shrine, where I witnessed some miraculous cures; among others I saw a girl who had been blind from birth receive sight. For four days I prayed that my wound might be healed, and bathed it constantly with the water I obtained from the spring. I noticed little improvement for three days, but after I had said Mass at the grotto on the fourth day I adjourned to my hotel, and, bathing the wound with the water, I said a rosary after each application. Now a wonderful change came over the wound, and at the end of every bathing I witnessed, with the greatest of joy, the wound slowly healing up. I continued the rosary and bathing alternately until, to my great delight, I saw the skin form over the opening in the wound, and, rushing down stairs, I showed my leg to those in the hotel, most of whom knew what state it was in. There was great excitement in that hotel, I can tell you, and after breakfast I went to a doctor and showed him the cure. He pronounced my leg cured, not being able to find a weak spot in it. I may just state that I had consulted many doctors, both in this country, and at Home. The latter informed me that the malady was incurable.' As your correspondent knew what state Father Holierhoek's leg was in, having seen the wound on many occasions, it has impressed him as a very remarkable cure, and the only visible evidence remaining of the painful wound is a slight discoloration of the skin. Father Holierhoek never tires of relating the many wonders that have taken place at Lourdes; and those he was fortunate in being a witness thereto.

### Paeroa

A welcome social to the Rev. Father Bradley (says the 'Ohinemuri Gazette') was held in the Choral Hall on the evening of July 29, when there was a large attendance, not only of Paeroa people, but also of those from up-country. Just before the adjournment for supper, the Very Rev. Dean Hackett introduced Father Bradley, saying that he was a young priest from

Australia who had come to assist him in his work. On August 14 he (the speaker) would have been in the district for fourteen years, and although he had seen many changes, it looked as if he, like Tennyson's brook, would 'go on for ever.' He was pleased to have Father Bradley to help him with his labors, and, on behalf of the parishioners, he welcomed him to the district.

Mr. J. McCarthy then read an address of welcome from the parishioners.

Father Bradley, in reply, said he was pleased to hear their words of welcome, and he was pleased to be associated with his friend, Dean Hackett, who was a man to be revered and looked up to. When he first saw Dean Hackett in Auckland, before he had any intention of coming to Paeroa, he recognised that he was a man to be loved. Over in Australia he had met many New Zealanders, and when in Queensland he had come across several from 'God's Own Country' looking for land, and he was surprised to hear that there was not enough land in 'God's Own Country' for everybody. He had heard so much about New Zealand that he had decided to come over and sample some of it. He had made many friends since he had come to Paeroa; in fact, he had made more friends during the few weeks he had been in Paeroa than he had during the seven or eight months he was in Auckland. Somehow or other, the people in Auckland seemed to be of a different stamp to the good folk of Paeroa. He had been round Karangahake and the other parts of the district, and he was pleased to see some of the people from those places present that night. He believed that social intercourse between priest and people did a lot of good, and it was on occasions like the present one that he preferred to meet the ladies and gentlemen of the district. There was no doubt that social events such as that did a certain amount of good. He thanked the members of the committee and all present for the welcome accorded him, and trusted they would meet again on several similar occasions.

The Very Rev. Dean Hackett returned thanks to all present for assisting to make the welcome so successful, more particularly those who had presented the eucharistic prizes and the members of the committee who had worked so earnestly. He was pleased to see members of all denominations present, and said that Father Bradley would find that there was no religious animosity here as there was in some places. Dean Hackett also presented the prizes won at the eucharistic tournament as follows:—Ladies: Mrs. Barrett, first (silver toast rack, presented by Mrs. Moriarty); Mrs. Rolton, second (silver and glass butter dish, presented by Mr. Keller). Gentlemen: Mr. Le Compte, first (set of carvers, presented by Mr. J. Brennan); Mr. J. Gordon, second (wheelbarrow, presented by Mr. G. Collins).

After the speeches and the presentation of prizes, supper provided by the ladies was handed round.

### Otahuhu

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A very pleasing function took place recently in the Convent Schoolroom, Otahuhu, when the Rev. Father Buckley was presented with a beautiful silver chalice by the members of the confraternity of Children of Mary. The following was the address, which was read by the president, Miss Rodgers:—

'We have assembled here this evening to thank you for the deep interest you have taken in our spiritual and temporal interests since you first became our spiritual director. We fully appreciate the zeal with which you are actuated while you quietly and unassumingly perform your priestly duties. Knowing how little you care for glowing words of praise, we shall, in a few words express our deep gratitude to you, and at the same time we beg to assure you that we duly appreciate your exertions to make us true Children of Mary. We most sincerely wish you a long and happy life, and ask you to accept this souvenir as a small token of our esteem and respect. We have the honor to remain, yours very respectfully, the Children of Mary.'

Rev. Father Buckley replied in appropriate terms, and thanked the donors on behalf of himself and successors in the parish.

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

August 10.

The Rev. Father Hills, S.M., Leeston, is at present conducting a retreat for the Sisters of Nazareth, and was replaced at Leeston on Sunday by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy from the Cathedral.

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