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OBITUARY

MR. ARTHUR HAUGHEY, HAWERA.

The death occurred at Hawera on October 24 of Mr. Arthur Haughey, at the age of sixty-one years. The deceased, who was a native of the North of Ireland, had been engaged in business in Hawera for about twenty-seven years, and was for some time a member of the Borough Council. The late Mr. Haughey was a practical Catholic, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church. R.I.P.

SISTER M. PHILOMENA, AUCKLAND.

I regret to report the death of Sister Mary Philomena (writes a correspondent), who passed away at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Mount Eden, on October 13. Sister M. Philomena was born in Parramatta, New South Wales, and was the daughter of the late Mr. J. O'Flaherty. She was professed nine years, and during her short religious life proved herself to be a true Sister of Mercy. She bore her lingering illness with true Christian fortitude and died peacefully and calmly fortified by all the rites of the Church.—R.I.P.

MR. MICHAEL McCORMACK, RIMU.

There passed away on December 3, at his home in Governor's Terrace, Rimu (writes a correspondent), one of Westland's most respected residents in the person of Mr. Michael McCormack. Deceased was a native of County Clare, and came to New Zealand about fifty years ago. For the greater part of his life he had resided on the West Coast, where, in the days of the gold rushes, he was engaged in business as a storekeeper. He had been a valued officer of the County Council for many years, and the Councillors showed their respect for deceased by their presence at his funeral. He was one of the oldest subscribers in the district to the *Tablet*, and always maintained that it was a blessing in every Catholic home. On Wednesday morning Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. Mary's Church, Rimu, by the Rev. Father O'Connor, who afterwards officiated at the graveside, assisted by the Rev. Father Creed (Kumara) and the Rev. Father Cahill (Dannevirke). The funeral was one of the largest ever seen in the district, which shows the great respect in which he was held. On Sunday morning Father O'Connor spoke very feelingly of the deceased. His life, though simple, was most exemplary, his example during life doing much for the cause of religion. His death was peaceful and happy; his preparation for it was not of a week's or a year's duration but a lifelong preparation for that great moment when he breathed forth his soul to God, surrounded by his sorrowing family. He was a devoted Catholic, a true Irishman, a good citizen, a loving husband, and a kind father, and a good neighbor. He leaves a widow and a family of three sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

Westport

December 5.

In the practical music examinations under the auspices of the R.A.M., recently conducted by Mr. Dunhill, the candidates presented by the Sisters of Mercy were again most successful, all of whom passed. The following is the list:—Local Centre: Advanced Grade—Mary Hennessy, 108. Intermediate Grade—Tui Crowther (violin), 130 (honors); Ada Carlyon (piano), 124; Harriet Mills, 114. Higher Division, School Centre—E. Smith (singing), 120 (distinction); A. Corby (piano), 118; B. Elliot, 116; K. Duncan, 115; M. Watts, 112; K. Carroll (singing), 108. Lower Division—M. Clark (violin), 116; E. Lawson (piano), 115; E. Ryan, 113. Elementary Division—Hayo (piano), 130 (distinction); B. Doyle, 126; K. Pain, 118; A. Milligan (singing), 109; F. McKay (piano), 107. Primary Division—R. Seaton, 132 (distinction); M. Skinner, 126; O. Schadick, 108; I. Broome, 125; R. Broome, 119; A. Cullen, 127.

Dannevirke

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 12.

A very successful social was held here recently in connection with the bazaar which is to take place in March. Messrs. J. Pettit and J. McDonald were the hon. secretaries.

The Rev. Father Cahill returned on last Saturday from a very enjoyable holiday in Canterbury and the West Coast of the South Island. During his absence his place was taken by Father P. W. Tynons, of the Meanees Seminary.

Mr. and Mrs. McGaughran, who have been amongst the earliest settlers around Dannevirke, have sold their farm and are soon leaving with their family for Auckland. The McGaughran family will be much missed by their co-religionists.

Two very beautiful statues have recently been presented to the local church by two ladies of the congregation. Mrs. O'Daly presented the statue of the Sacred Heart, in memory of her late husband, and Mrs. Lough with her daughters presented the statue of the Blessed Virgin and Child, in memory of her late daughter, Mrs. A. Potts. Messrs. J. Kelly, George Stratford, and J. Pettit erected and donated the side altars for the statues.

Very great interest is being taken in the Government dairy farms which are to be publicly balloted for on the 29th of this month. The block contains 5000 acres and it is subdivided into 43 dairy farms. The land is situated only two miles from Dannevirke, beside the railway line and a good road. Co-operative dairying is taking a strong hold all round Dannevirke. The private dairy companies are selling all their factories and creameries to their suppliers. The Piri Piri block is to be balloted for on the 29th inst on the optional system. The rent and upset price are considered reasonable.

Patea

(From our travelling correspondent.)

At the last district schools examination the Sisters of St. Joseph were singularly successful with the pupils sent forward by them. Of the six presented in the Sixth Standard four gained proficiency and two competency certificates. In the musical examinations they were no less successful, as the following list of passes will show:—Primary (practical)—Madge Bremer, 115. Elementary (practical)—Maud Mitchell, 130 (distinction); Flossie Hunger, 126; Clare Hogan, 125; Bessie Johnston, 121; Lizzie McComisky, 118. In the preparatory division, Trinity College examination, two were presented, Thomas Keane and Maude Fitzwater, and both passed. In the R.A.M. theoretical examination, passes were obtained by Kathleen McKenna, Beatrice Dickson, Lizzie McComisky, Clara Hogan, and Flossie Hunger.

The annual concert given by the pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph took place in the Patea Hall on Wednesday, December 16, and despite the unseasonable weather large numbers were present at what proved to be a very interesting and successful entertainment. The choruses, action songs, instrumental items, etc., all came in for their measure of applause, which must have been as gratifying to the good Sisters as it surely was to the performers. The following was the programme:—Piano duet, Misses K. McKenna, E. Williams, F. Hunger, M. Fitzwater; chorus, senior pupils; action songs, infants; flag drill, senior girls; piano solo, Miss Maud Mitchell; song, juniors, piano duet, Misses C. Hogan, L. McComisky, F. Hunger, B. Dickson; song, senior pupils; Spanish drills, senior girls; piano duet, Misses E. Beamish, M. Bremer, Masters T. and F. Keane; chorus, senior pupils; song, boys; piano duet, Misses Dickson, Palmer, Carey, and E. Dickson; club-swinging, boys. In *'Liliola'*, a drama in four acts, the characters were sustained by Misses S. Power, K. McKenna, E. Kennedy, F. Power, M. Mitchell, B. Dickson, M. Gilligan, M. Mangos, M. McKenna, E. Williams, F. Hunger.

A meeting of delegates held on Monday afternoon, December 7, appointed the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly as member of the Thames Hospital Trustees (says the local *Advertiser*). At the evening meeting Monsignor O'Reilly thanked the Board for the confidence placed in him.

We have received several school reports, which will appear in our next issue in the order in which they came to hand.