

'John and Angelina.' The character of John was sustained by Mr. T. J. Anthony, of Angelina by Miss C. Carter, and of the waiter by Mr. A. Griffiths. The operettas were produced under the direction of Mr. T. J. Anthony, Mr. W. Kennedy being scenic artist. The accompanists were Miss M. King (piano) and Mr. J. Burns (violin). There was a very large audience, who showed by frequent applause their appreciation of the varied and excellent programme.

The pupils of St. Dominic's College tendered a welcome to his Lordship the Bishop on Tuesday evening. A high-class programme of musical and other items was gone through, and at the conclusion his Lordship thanked the performers for the excellence of the entertainment. His Lordship was the recipient of a valuable present

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

February 20.

The Home for the Marist missionaries has now been fixed at Temuka instead of Meane.

The Otaki Convent School picnic was held in the vicinity of that institution on Wednesday, 17th inst.

The Sisters of Mercy intend taking over the Sunday schools at Brooklyn and Mitchelltown from the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

At Carterton St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated by a concert and social in Victoria Hall in aid of the Catholic Church funds.

The following pupils of St. Patrick's College were successful at the Civil Service Senior examination:—Passed—Robert Lavery; passed in five subjects, James Rochford, Bernard Ryan, James Ryan; passed in four subjects, Alfred Cullen, Michael Maher.

The Rev. Dr. Capra, of Milan, Italy, arrived in Wellington on Wednesday and was the guest of his Grace the Archbishop until he left on Thursday by the express for Auckland. Dr. Capra is inquiring into the conditions of Italian residents of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Dominion of New Zealand.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on February 15, Bro. E. F. Reichel presiding. The secretary reported the progress that had been made by the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee, and stated that there was every indication of a successful celebration. His Excellency the Governor, his Grace the Archbishop, and the Mayor and Mayoress have extended their patronage to the national concert for St. Patrick's night, and have also signified their intention of being present. Before the meeting closed a resolution of sympathy, condoling with the relatives and friends of those who lost their lives in the ill-fated Penguin, was passed by the members.

On Wednesday, 17th inst., in the Sydney street school-room, Thorndon, a most enjoyable social was held in aid of the Karori Catholic church building fund. At this initial entertainment (as it is the intention of the committee to hold a series of socials during the coming half-year to augment the above fund) there was a large number present. The committee, consisting of Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Lessington, Mrs. Prendeville, Misses Prendeville (2), Mrs. Nimmo, Mrs. Kay, Miss N. Kay, Miss Feeney, Mrs. Swan, Miss Barrow, Misses Hurley, Putnam (2), Messrs. Monaghan, Pearce, J. F. Lessington, Crombie, Cimino, Kay, Devine, and J. J. Costall (hon. secretary), worked hard for the successful function.

At St. Patrick's Hall on Thursday evening the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference was held, when there was a full attendance of members present, including the spiritual director (Rev. Father Venning). The report stated that during the half-year the number of foreign vessels visited was 63; Catholic seamen met, 273; 79 packages of Catholic and secular literature were distributed. The report was highly gratifying, and the figures double those of the previous six months, except in regard to the literature. There is a credit balance of £11 18s 10d. Three concerts to seamen were given under the auspices of the Conference during the half-year. Arrangements have been made with the spiritual director to have a Requiem Mass said on Tuesday at St. Mary of the Angels' Church for the deceased members of the crew of the Penguin. The Conference has also donated £1 1s towards the relief fund. The election of officers for the ensuing half-year resulted as follows:—Spiritual director, Rev. Father Venning; president, Mr. James McCusker; vice-president, Mr. E. J. Donoghue; hon. secretary, Mr. E. F. Reichel; hon. treasurer, Mr. C. Cotterill; librarian, Mr. C. P. McKenzie; shipping reporter, Mr. Charles Lenihan.

Mr. J. McGrath, our late Chief Detective, was farewelled by Bench and Bar previous to his departure for

Christchurch, where he is to assume the duties of Sub-Inspector of Police. At the Magistrate's Court, Mr. A. L. Herdman, President of the Law Society, said the members of the legal profession practising in the Magistrate's Court who had come in contact with Mr. McGrath entertained for him feelings of the highest respect. He was a familiar figure in court, and many of those present had come into almost daily contact with him. They had been opponents in cases tried before their Worships, and it must be gratifying to Mr. McGrath to have earned the appreciation of those who had been so frequently pitted against him. One of the principal qualities that had made the ex-Chief Detective respected was his invariable fairness. Often when some unfortunate individual appeared in court for a breach of the law, and was not represented by counsel, Mr. McGrath had informed him of circumstances in his favor, so that he might have a chance. Moreover, the ex-Chief Detective possessed a good heart, and extended a helping hand to many an unfortunate who had not a friend in the world. In conclusion, Mr. Herdman congratulated Mr. McGrath on his well-deserved promotion, and wished him every success in the future. Mr. C. P. Skerrett, K.C., Dr. McArthur, and Mr. Riddell, S.M.'s, also spoke in highly eulogistic terms of Mr. McGrath's ability and fairness. Mr. McGrath, in returning thanks, said that no words of commendation were of so much value to him as those which came from persons who were in a position to criticize his work. He felt honored at the large gathering in Court, and could only say that his promotion was mingled with the regrets at parting from old associations.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

February 22.

The Sisters of Nazareth acknowledge with thanks additional contributions amounting to £235 from a lengthy list of subscribers towards the building fund of the new Nazareth House.

At the Chamber of Commerce Hall this (Monday) morning a number of friends of Inspector Dwyer and Mrs. Dwyer met for the purpose of making a presentation to the latter as a mark of esteem and regard, and as a memento of their residence in Christchurch. Mr. R. C. Bishop, who presided, said that those present desired to extend their heartiest congratulations to Inspector Dwyer on his recent promotion. Inspector Dwyer himself could not attend that day, for the police regulations were of a very stringent character, and perhaps it was as well that that was so. That, however, did not make the fact any the less, that in honoring Mrs. Dwyer they were honoring Inspector Dwyer as well. They wished Inspector and Mrs. Dwyer happiness and success in the new city to which they were going, and they could not allow the opportunity to pass without giving some little souvenir of Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer's residence in Christchurch. They desired to express, through Mrs. Dwyer, the high esteem in which her husband was held by his Christchurch friends, and their heartiest congratulations upon his promotion. Mr. Bishop then presented Mrs. Dwyer with a small silver tea caddy, filled with what he termed 'golden tips.' The caddy bore the following inscription: 'Presented to Mrs. John Dwyer by a few Christchurch friends on the occasion of the departure of Inspector Dwyer and herself from Christchurch to Napier, 22nd February, 1909.' Mr. W. Hayward briefly responded on behalf of Mrs. Dwyer.

Golden Jubilee of Mother M. de' Ricci, O.S.D.

Tuesday last was the golden jubilee of the profession of Mother M. de Ricci, O.S.D., of St. Dominic's Priory, Dunedin. Mother M. de Ricci was born in Limerick in June, 1837; entered the Dominican Order at Sion Hill, Dublin, in 1856, and was professed three years later. Of these fifty years of fruitful labor as a religious thirty-seven have been spent in New Zealand, and it is safe to say that there is scarcely a district in the diocese of Dunedin in which cannot be found some one who at one time or another had benefited by her teaching, advice, and wise counsel. Mother M. de Ricci, with nine other Sisters, left Sion Hill for New Zealand in October, 1870, arriving in Dunedin in February, 1871, where she was engaged teaching until 1882. Then, accompanied by four Sisters, she was sent to open the convent in Invercargill, and remained there until 1889. Being recalled to Dunedin, she occupied the position of Mistress of Novices. In 1894 she went to Lawrence, and in 1898 she had charge of the mission house at Queenstown. The following year, with five Sisters, she went to Western Australia, but her health breaking down towards the end of 1900, she had to return to New Zealand. In 1901 she was sent in charge of Cromwell branch-house, but returned to Dunedin in 1907, where she has since been employed in instructing children and others. Mother M. de Ricci is niece of the late Most Rev. Dr. Kirby, Archbishop of Ephesus, and Rector of the Irish College, Rome.