

from the merits of the gifted young preacher, the opportunity presented of hearing the teachings of the Church expounded in eloquent and convincing language should not be missed. No doubt large congregations will attend St. Canice's Church to benefit by these instructive and profitable discourses.

Universal regret was expressed in Westport when the sad intelligence of the death of Mr. John Lempiert, the gifted son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lempiert, was brought by the last San Francisco mail. The late Mr. Lempiert was possessed of high literary attainments, and rapidly gained a reputation in journalistic circles in the United States. He received a continental education, having spent some five years in one of the leading universities in Germany. The late Mr. Lempiert was attacked by consumption last November, which culminated in his death at Stony Brook, near Brooklyn at the early age of 36 years. A widow and child, besides his parents, who are old residents of the West Coast, and much respected in Westport, are left to mourn their sad loss. A Requiem Mass was celebrated for the repose of his soul last Monday by the Ven. Archpriest Walshe.—R.I.P.

(This communication arrived too late for insertion in our last issue.)

Denniston

(From our own correspondent.)

Although situated in a remote part of the Colony, and in a most inaccessible position, Denniston is deservedly noted for its talent and enthusiasm in musical matters. As an illustration of this fact the success of the local band at the contest at Masterton, and the selection of two of its members for inclusion in the N.Z. Representative Band may be mentioned. It is not surprising then that Winter's Missa Cantata was rendered by the choir of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at the 11 o'clock Mass on the 11th inst., in a most creditable manner. Composed for the most part of children, whose clear, sweet voices blended harmoniously with those of their elders, the singing of the choir well merited the high encomiums passed on their efforts by the Rev. Father Malloy at Vespers. Special praise is due to Miss Horne, the talented organist, for the energetic manner in which she worked to achieve a successful rendering of the sacred music. The Messrs Power, Fraser, Franks, and Miss K. Milligan are also deserving of commendation for valuable services rendered. It is worthy of note that those sturdy miners who are members of the choir, attend the practices regularly after their hard day's toil, and thus set an example that might well be emulated in other parts of the parish. It is the intention of the Rev. Father Malloy, himself a musician of no mean order, to shortly have the Vespers sung in the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is always a source of gratification to the good priest to visit Denniston for the edification and instruction of his people, as the congregations, morning and evening, are large, and a laudable zeal and enthusiasm are manifested in all matters affecting the welfare and advancement of the Church. For those who do not know Denniston it may be stated that a few Sundays ago some 84 communicants approached the Holy Table—truly a splendid record for the little mining township.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

June 22.

Professor Bickerton said, during the course of a scientific lecture recently delivered that the result of the present education system was to 'sacrifice the soul of the youth for the husks of imperfect knowledge.'

The opinion of Mr. G. T. Booth, who is the head of an important manufacturing industry in this city, expressed a few evenings ago at a meeting of the employers and Parliamentary representatives in regard to preference to unionists, is to the following effect: The proposal involved an inherent injustice to the non-unionists. Unionists (he said) had no more right to expect preference than Presbyterians or Catholics had. The Catholics might quite as justly say that the positions in the public service should be reserved to them. They had even more right than the unionists, as they were doing something to regenerate the world and make it better to live in. Unionists could not show such evidence of public utility.

The proposals of the Tramways' Board, submitted to the ratepayers to empower the raising of a loan for the purchase of the rights of existing lines and to electrify them and others projected, was decided by ballot last week, and approved of by over 88 per cent of those who voted. The amount proposed to be raised is £250,000.

Owing to the recent lamentable death of the Rev. Mother Provincial, the customary entertainment and recognition of the last day of his Lordship the Bishop will not take place on the present occasion at the Monastery of the Sacred Heart. In other respects, however, the Sisters of the Missions are not unmindful of the chief pastor, and intend presenting his Lordship with a very beautiful and costly pair of curtains. These are of cardinal Roman satin, magnificently ornamented in gold thread and arabesque work, depicting a tropical scene, the subject including palms, bulrushes, water birds, etc. The reverse side is lined with silk of corresponding color.

The triduum, preparatory to the Feast of St. John, patron of the diocese, was inaugurated in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday. His Lordship the Bishop preached at High Mass and explained the nature of the celebrations, and in the evening pontificated at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, attended by the Very Rev. Vicar-General and Rev. Father Richards. Particular attention had been devoted to the adornment of the sanctuary and high altar, the effect being particularly attractive. At Vespers the Rev. Father Richards, of Lincoln, preached an impressive discourse on 'Faith' to a large congregation. A special Mass will be celebrated each morning at nine o'clock, that on the concluding day (Wednesday) is to be a Pontifical High Mass. The Rev. Father Cooney (Lyttelton) occupies the pulpit on Monday evening, the Rev. Father Hyland (Rangiora) on Tuesday, and the Rev. Dr. Kennedy (Akaroa) on Wednesday. There will be devotions and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament each evening, and adequate facilities offered for compliance with paschal duties.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration was commenced on Sunday last in the Church of the Holy Name, Ashburton. The rector, the Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, is to be assisted during the period by the Very Rev. Dean Bowers (Geraldine), Rev. Father Hyland (Rangiora), and Rev. Father O'Connell (Pro-Cathedral).

Whilst on an episcopal visitation to Akaroa his Lordship the Bishop was met on arrival at Barry's Bay by a number of parishioners, who had proceeded there by steam launch. When his Lordship reached the presbytery an address of welcome was read to him by Mr. F. Narbey, Junr. The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered after the 11 o'clock Mass on the following Sunday, and in the afternoon his Lordship visited the Sunday school and sodalities. The Bishop celebrated Mass on Monday morning, visited the parish school, and later on in the day left on his return to Christchurch. During the visitation £65 was subscribed towards the Cathedral building fund.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 11.

The Very Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., is at present acting at the Sacred Heart Church for the Very Rev. Dr. Egan, during the latter's visit to Sydney.

The labor men here are agitated over the appointment of a labor M.L.C., saying that since Mr. Jennings's withdrawal from the Council, Auckland labor is not represented.

A departure has been made at St. Patrick's Cathedral on procession nights by having the girls and boys in the procession sing during its course. The change is both welcome and wise, because it is most inspiring to listen to the fresh, lusty young voices raised to Him who said, 'Suffer little children to come unto Me.'

His Lordship the Bishop has been invited by the priests and laity to represent the diocese at the excursion in connection with the visit of his Eminence Cardinal Moran to the South Sea Islands. The Bishop's expenses for the trip were readily subscribed by those who considered he should form one of the Cardinal's distinguished party. His Lordship expects to leave by the inward Frisco mail boat for Sydney on July 13th.

Our new Mayor contends that ninepence general rate is not sufficient to carry on in the city. There is much to support him, because there is now an overdraft of £15,000, and many works urgently crying out to be undertaken, while the streets are sadly neglected. The Mayor proposed applying the surplus of £13,000 odd towards reducing the overdraft. The estimated expenditure for the coming year by the city engineer is £22,000, but the Council says this must be reduced by £3000.

'An Old-time Bishop' was the heading to a contribution by Hilda Keane in the 'Herald' supplement of last Saturday. The writer is a non-Catholic, and in a very impartial and generous spirit she eulogised the saintly character, and the many meritorious works of our first and dearly-beloved Bishop, Dr. Pompallier. The writer referred to his early trials and vicissitudes in the far North amongst the Maoris, who received him in the first place with positive aversion, but subsequently loved and respected him when they discovered how entirely free from mercenary motives were his every action. The writer draws a striking comparison between the reception accorded the 'old-time Bishop' and the reception given recently in Auckland to 'our modern Bishop'. It is well to be reminded now and again of the noble deeds so heroically performed by heroes such as the late Archbishop Pompallier really was. It rouses one's latent enthusiasm.

(This letter did not reach us until Friday morning of last week.)

For Auckland letter, June 18, see page 19.

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