

that the reconciliation of Italy with the Holy See is vital; not only to Italy, but to the Catholic world. . . . We then agreed on Cardinal Pecci, and undertook to speak to other Cardinals." And so Cardinal Pecci was elected, taking the title of Leo XIII.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On visiting Wrey's Bush (writes our travelling correspondent) I was pleased to find that everything connected with the Church and education was in a flourishing condition. The Catholic school, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, was recently examined by the Government Inspector, and all but one of those presented passed, a result which speaks well for the teaching of the Sisters of Mercy. The Catholic congregation have bought the Education Board school, and are going to erect it in the convent grounds, where it will be used as a school and meeting room. The Very Rev. Father Walsh deserves great praise for his untiring efforts on behalf of his flock, and it is pleasing to note the generosity and appreciation of his people.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

It is reported that motor cars are likely to be introduced into Rotorua during the coming tourist season, for the purpose of carrying passengers to the various sights.

Those intending to insure their lives would do well to read the annual report of the Government Insurance Commissioner presented to Parliament, and reprinted in the current issue of the 'Recorder,' the organ of the department, just to hand.

Over half a million of money has been expended on harbor works at Lyttelton (says the 'Lyttelton Times'). This includes the cost of the breakwaters, wharves, and jetties, a graving dock, and dredging work in the inner harbor, and a powerful steam tug, built specially for the Board.

Plans have recently been adopted by the Wellington City Council for the extension of the Central Public Library, at a cost of £7500. They provide for a new circulating library room, capable of holding 46,600 volumes, an art gallery, and a museum, to hold a valuable private collection presented to the city some time ago by Mr. E. W. Petherick, on condition that proper housing was given it.

The 'Alexandra Herald' states that the losses of stock in various parts of Central Otago have been much heavier than was at first anticipated. On the Earnscleugh runs, occupied by Mr. S. Spain and Messrs. Charles Bros., it is estimated that the losses in sheep will be very little, if anything, under 50 per cent., the death rate being particularly heavy on the higher portions of the runs. The losses of Mr. J. Butler, of Bald Flat, will probably not be under 30 per cent. of his flock, and the losses of Mr. Jopp, of Moutere Station, are estimated at 25 to 30 per cent. of his flock, whilst the losses on Galloway and Matahanui Stations will probably be even greater still. The farmers and small grazing run holders throughout the district have all suffered to a greater or less extent.

A shocking catastrophe is reported from Rotorua. An unusually severe eruption occurred at Waimangu geyser on Sunday afternoon, resulting in the death of Misses Nicholls (of North Canterbury) and Messrs. McNaughton (Ponsonby), and Joe Warbrick (brother of the well-known guide). They were looking at an eruption near the shelter shed standing on a hill overlooking the geyser. They went too near in their desire to take snapshots. The eruption took the form of a tidal wave, becoming suddenly terrific, and the four people named were swept off the hill by the force of the water into the overflow of the geyser, where there is a depth of 12 ft. They were carried down in the boiling water nearly a mile towards Lake Rotomahana, the bodies being recovered some time after. A considerable portion of the clothing was torn off. Mrs. Nicholls accompanied her daughters, but escaped. Another man in close proximity succeeded in resisting the force of the water.

At the last meeting of the Ashburton Catholic Literary Society the programme consisted of competitive speeches by the junior members for a valuable prize presented by Mr. M. Moriarty. The subject (says the 'Mail') 'Which kind of sport, cash or amateur, gives the best results?' was keenly debated. Twelve juniors entered for the competition, but only six faced the judges (the president and Mr. F. K. Cooper). The speeches

made by the six contestants were all good, those deserving special mention being Messrs. T. Adams, and F. Healy, who tied for first prize, and Mr. T. Stephens, who was second. After the competition the debate was continued by the senior members, and some strange facts were elicited.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes, accompanied by the Very Rev. Dean Foley, arrived in Kumara on Thursday evening, August 20 (writes a correspondent of the Grey-mouth 'Star') and at 8 p.m. addressed a large congregation assembled to welcome him. On Sunday at half-past eight and eleven o'clock Mass his Lordship made an appeal on behalf of the building fund of the Christchurch Cathedral. This was responded to very generously and a considerable sum netted. At three in the afternoon his Lordship administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to some 25 young people, explaining its nature, and exhorting them to persevere in the paths of virtue and truth. At seven p.m. he again preached an eloquent sermon to a crowded congregation.

The Catholic schools in the Thames district have recently been examined by the Government Inspector, and his report shows that the results are very satisfactory. Eighty children were presented for examination, and out of this total 76 passed, which is a very good percentage. The work in all the standards was well up to the average, and in some cases came in for special praise. Mention was made of the excellent discipline and behavior of the pupils. As will be seen, these schools are a credit to the district, and show that excellent secular education is being given notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they are being conducted.

The Dunedin Schools' Football Championship

This year ten teams played in the schools' competition. The arrangement was that a complete round should be played by the ten teams. The four highest were then to play off for the senior grade banner, and the next four in order were to play for the junior banner. At the end of the first round the Christian Brothers', Dunedin, and the Otago Boys' High School were equal for first place, they having played a drawn game and won all their other matches. Both defeated the other two teams in the senior grade, and on Friday last they met on the Asylum Ground, each with an unbeaten record, to fight it out for the banner. Bryant kicked off for the Christian Brothers', and Strang, the High School wing three-quarter, sent the ball into touch in the Greens' twenty-five. At once the High School set up a vigorous attack, and for ten minutes the Greens' had a lively time defending their line. But, thanks to their front rankers—Higgins and Loughlan—the Greens' generally got the ball out of the scrum, and the backs by judicious line kicking succeeded in removing the scene of hostilities into the High School territory. The Greens' now began to turn the tables on their sturdy opponents. Three determined attack on the High School line ended in the School forcing down. The fourth attempt was successful, Bryant, at the head of the Green forwards, dribbled the ball over the line and scored a try. Christian Brothers', 3 points, High School, nil. No further score was registered in the first spell. In the second half the Greens' did most of the attacking, James Collins, five-eighths, being very prominent. Towards the end of the game the ball was thrown in from the touch-line, and Lynch getting possession passed it on to Casey, who sent it to James Collins, who, running into his man, passed to Rossbotham. The latter perceiving himself within easy kicking distance of the goal, coolly took a shot, and landed the ball well over the crossbar (4 points). The Christian Brothers' were now seven points and the High School nil. The game ended shortly afterwards without further score, thus returning the Christian Brothers' winners of a splendidly-contested game. Mr. E. Davis made an impartial referee. A few words on the players may be of interest. Tarleton, the Christian Brothers' full-back, was always reliable. The wing three-quarters, Ford and John Collins, had little to do, but they generally found the line when the ball came their way. Rossbotham (centre three-quarter), James Collins (five eighths), and Smith (half-back) were the pick of the backs. Collins especially was a thorn in the sides of his opponents. Casey (five-eighths), although a little slow, was very sure. Amongst the forwards the shining light was Bryant. He is a player of the bold, aggressive type, and is always where the other side does not want him. Lynch, Dan Collins, and Sullivan were worthy mates for Bryant. Dick Thomas and Wilson did a man's work each. The High School backs who gave a good account of themselves were Strang (three-quarters), the fastest boy playing in the schools this year. Unfortunately for his side he got no chances; Duthie, at