

CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE, WELLINGTON.

An exceptionally interesting meeting of the C.I.C. was held in the Federation rooms on February 26. The chair was occupied by the president (Mr. Girling-Butcher). The Very Rev. Dean Regnault and the Rev. Father Venning (spiritual director) were present, and there was a good attendance of members and friends interested in the work. A discussion took place re the action of the Government nation in insisting on two immigrant girls going to a non-Catholic hostel, when suitable and reputable lodgings were available in Catholic homes. Difficulties of this description only serve to intensify the urgent need of a Catholic hostel, consequently the report of the sub-committee, set up for the consideration of this question, was received with exceptional interest. Three offers of property were carefully considered by the members of the sub-committee, and declined as unsuitable, and a recommendation was made that the city priests be asked to notify that a hostel is to be opened, and that those who require rooms should give in their names. These particulars being obtained, an appeal will be made to Catholic women of the city to assist in the movement. A proposal, that the recommendation be acted upon, was carried unanimously. The thanks of the C.I.C. are due to the Very Rev. Dean Regnault for his practical sympathy and assistance. During his sojourn in Ireland and England, he, at much personal inconvenience, made many visits to those he thought might further the work of the C.I.C. Owing to the Dean's tireless energy we are already corresponding with some of these gentlemen. During the evening Dean Regnault spoke at length on the sad state of affairs in Mexico.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COMMITTEE, WELLINGTON.

St. Joseph's parish committee met at the presbytery, Patterson street, on Wednesday, February 24. The Rev. Father Barra presided, and there was a good attendance of members. Mr. P. Hopkins, representative of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Cricket Club, took his seat for the first time. The rev. chairman informed the meeting that Messrs. O'Regan and Poppelwell (Dominion president) had offered to deliver lectures on behalf of the committee—Mr. O'Regan after Lent, and Mr. Poppelwell about July. It was resolved to give a medal to the boy or girl attending the schools who procured the highest number of subscriptions during the year.

CATHEDRAL PARISH COMMITTEE.

The Christchurch Cathedral parish committee met on last Monday evening in the Federation rooms, Wiltshire Buildings, Mr. J. R. Hayward (vice-president) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. It was reported that vigorous efforts were being made to enrol new members and to collect this year's subscriptions. A useful discussion on municipal matters took place, and the enrolment of Catholic voters for the ensuing elections was arranged for. A pleasing unanimity prevails in the branch committee, all the members endeavoring to help on the Federation, and make it a real live force.

CHRISTCHURCH DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

(From our own correspondent.)

The executive committee of the Christchurch Diocesan Council met on last Saturday evening in the Federation rooms, Wiltshire Buildings. The president (Mr. W. Hayward, jun.) presided, and, having been one of the delegates to the recent meeting of the Dominion Council, gave a report of the business transacted there. The secretary reported on a large amount of correspondence received and dealt with since the previous meeting, among which was a periodical report, sent by the manager of the Burnham Industrial School, giving the names of Catholic boys who had been placed

in situations. Mr. Archey was very sincerely thanked for his continued courtesy to the executive in this matter. It was resolved to adopt the resolution of the Dominion Council relative to the Diocesan Council contributing £40 towards the cost of erecting a permanent church building on the military camp grounds at Trentham, and the secretary was instructed to circularise all branches on the subject. The secretary of the Timaru branch reported that an objectionable film had been exhibited in that town, and it was resolved to take action on the receipt of fuller information.

The following reply was received from his Lordship Bishop Cleary, having reference to resolutions adopted at the recent Diocesan Council half-yearly meeting at Timaru—'The Bishop of Auckland returns cordial thanks to the Christchurch Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation for their kind and encouraging resolution.'

PROGRESS IN VARIOUS CENTRES.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

March 1.

On last Saturday week, the Catholics from all parts of the widely scattered parochial district of Ahaura assembled at the presbytery grounds for a picnic and demonstration, arranged by the Rev. Father O'Hare. A strong wish was locally expressed for the attendance of the organising secretary of the Federation, but Mr. Girling-Butcher found that the nearness of date to the meeting of the Dominion Council prevented him from undertaking the journey.

Totara Flat, in the Ahaura parochial district, has been selected as the site for the Westland Territorial encampment, at which it is expected five or six hundred Catholic men will be present. The military chaplain will be the Rev. Father O'Hare, and for his convenience, and that of those under his spiritual charge, the Christchurch Diocesan Council will endeavor to provide a marquee for the celebration of Mass, and for the purposes of a Catholic institute.

The Akaroa branch of the Catholic Federation is arranging to celebrate in a fitting manner the festival of the Apostle of Ireland on March 17. Mass will be celebrated at nine o'clock in the local Church of St. Patrick, after which an excursion across the harbor in launches to Te Kau Bay will take place, and the day spent in picnicking. A large Catholic gathering is expected on the occasion, and probably members of the executive committee of the Christchurch Diocesan Council will attend.

The Geraldine, Temuka, and Timaru branches of the Catholic Federation are, on behalf of the Diocesan Council, doing all that is possible locally in the interests of the military chaplain and of Catholic men in attendance at the Territorial camp at Orari. The mounted men go into camp at Waimate, and the branch of the Federation there has been asked to provide all that may be necessary for the Catholic chaplain and men of our faith.

Acting on the privilege extended by resolution, passed at the recent meeting of the Christchurch Diocesan Council at Timaru, a well attended meeting was held on last Sunday afternoon in the Catholic school-room, Spencer street, Addington, to form a branch of the Federation in that extensive and thickly-populated district. The diocesan secretary was present, explained the necessary procedure in the formation of a branch, and furnished the material for its proper working. Mr. G. Getson, who has evinced great interest in Federation matters, and was a representative of the former Addington sub-committee on the Cathedral branch committee, urged loyal co-operation with the Federation, a keen sympathy with and helpful interest in what it stood for. One point Mr. Getson commented upon, and one that should be more widely known, was in relation to our military forces, at home and abroad, and what the Federation was doing for them as compared to non-Catholic organisations. The following six