

Avezzano, in Italy. While she is away the good work at St. Joseph's Home for Incurables and the Home of Compassion is being attended to by the hard-working, capable Sisters. The sad little colony of foundling babies and juvenile inepts is an ever-growing one, and it is the lot of the Sisters to twist and contrive to make the best of everything, and this they manage to do, and still keep cheerful. To return to the Jubilee Ward—this apartment has up to the present been one large hall, but the Sisters have been advised that it is imperative that an infirmary must be provided, in order that the sick or ailing babies should not sleep in the same room as those who are fit and well, so, to meet the need of the moment, the Jubilee Ward is being divided into three large and two small apartments. The large rooms will be utilised for the purpose of a dormitory, infirmary, and nursery. A glassed-in verandah is being provided on the north side, to get the advantage of the sun, and another shaded verandah will project from the eastern side of the nursery for the use of the little ones. This contriving will leave the present babies' dormitory—the large room on the north-western corner of the home proper—and the refectory available as a play room for the other children. The two small rooms that are being provided in the Jubilee Ward are a kitchen (in which there is a boiler for the hot-water system) and a bathroom, where the bairns can be conveniently attended to. The work of altering the wing is not being done for nothing—the times are out of joint for that—but the Rev. Mother always maintained that the Lord would provide, and that He had never failed her yet. Perhaps some human help will manifest itself to meet the needs of the good Sisters.

With the approach of winter comes the call for warm clothing (and plenty of it) for the children of the Home. There are at present no fewer than seventeen babies under twelve months, who find comfort and love all round them, and show it in their crowing, kicking, and crawling. A happier bunch of kiddies the writer never saw. This little colony has to be clothed, and though it may be that 'Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers' (as the song runs), it is imperative that someone will have to help the Sisters in this direction. To that end a nursery tea is to be held at the Home in about a fortnight's time, and everyone who attends will be asked to bring something, however small, for the babies. The date of the tea will be announced in due course—in the meantime, needles and thread will doubtless be busily employed in the good work.

Napier

Sergeant D. J. Cummings, the popular police officer in charge at Napier, has received notice of his transfer to Rotorua (says the *Napier Daily Telegraph*). The intimation that Sergeant Cummings is to be moved from here will be the subject of universal regret throughout the district. Of a quiet, unassuming manner, he has, by strict attention to duty and never failing courtesy, earned the good-will and respect of a large circle of friends. Coming to Napier six years ago as district clerk, Sergeant Cummings was two years later appointed to his present position, which he has filled with credit to himself and with satisfaction to all concerned for the past four years.

On the last occasion on which Sergeant Cummings appeared in the local Court before his departure for Rotorua, the Justices of the Peace assembled to make him a presentation and bid him farewell. Every justice was present, including the Mayor (Mr. J. Vigor Brown). Mr. S. E. McCarthy, S.M., said it was the desire of the Justices of Napier to recognise the able and courageous manner in which Sergeant Cummings had discharged

his duties in Napier. The district was a big one, and the inspector was often away, and in his absence Sergeant Cummings had ably carried out the extra duties. Last year, during a long illness of Inspector O'Donovan, the Sergeant had most successfully carried out both his own and the inspector's work. His duties in respect to his brother officers had been discharged with firmness and fairness. In court the sergeant had performed his work with intelligence and impartiality, and it was largely due to the sergeant's efforts that Napier had such a small amount of crime. He wished Sergeant and Mrs. Cummings every success in the future. Sergeant Cummings having suitably replied, the Justices adjourned to the sheriff's room, where the gifts, consisting of a silver-mounted oak tray, afternoon tea set, rose bowls in silver and china, and a silver-mounted inkstand, were handed to him. The inkstand and tray were both suitably inscribed.

The Mayor presided at a meeting of citizens, called for the purpose of presenting to Mrs. Cummings a purse of 50 sovereigns. In making the presentation his Worship referred to the high esteem in which Sergeant Cummings was held. He had been very tactful and humane in the carrying out of his duties. He wished both the sergeant and his good wife all prosperity, and would be pleased to see Sergeant Cummings back in Napier in the future in a higher office. The Mayor then handed Mrs. Cummings a lady's handbag with 50 sovereigns in it.

Eulogistic references to Sergeant Cummings were also made by Messrs. H. A. Cornford, R. L. Patterson, B. J. Dolan, J. C. Bryant, A. Kohn, Colonel Sandtman, and Dr. Leahy, to all of which the guest replied in a very happy speech.

A pleasant function took place at the police station, where the members of the force gathered to bid farewell to Sergeant Cummings and present him, for Mrs. Cummings, with a handsome liqueur stand. The presentation was made by Detective-Sergeant Ward, who paid a well-deserved tribute to the ability, tact, and firmness of Sergeant Cummings. Complimentary speeches were also made by Sergeant Fraser, and Constable Rosanoski. Sergeant Cummings was also tendered a send-off by the local pressmen, who presented him with a silver-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 3.

Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., of the Cathedral, spent a few days of last week in Wellington, where he went to officiate at a wedding ceremony.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral on Sunday from the 11 o'clock Mass, followed by the usual procession and Benediction after Vespers. There will be the customary May devotions each evening during the month.

The Sunday school, recently established in the Linwood portion of the Cathedral parish, has proved a complete success. Two Sisters of the Mission conduct the school every Sunday afternoon, and the children attending at present number about fifty.

With a view of placing the church and school finances of the Woolston portion of the Cathedral parish on a satisfactory basis and to meet extra current expenses, a meeting of the residents was held on last Wednesday evening, when it was resolved to arrange a regular series of social events at intervals during the winter months.

A party of members of the Nellie Stewart Dramatic Company visited Mount Magdala on an afternoon last

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