

Dominion conference which meets on the 22nd inst. were considered and, discussion postponed until next meeting. Mr. J. P. Kavanagh, parish secretary of Feilding, was present at the meeting and was accorded a hearty welcome. The statement of the Catholic Field Service Fund presented by the treasurer disclosed satisfactory results; although the sum of £1100 had been donated to the chaplains and much necessary work done to camp halls at Trentham, and Featherston, there still remained the very creditable balance of £670. A letter written by the late Chaplain-Major McMenamin acknowledging the last remittance of £300 was read.

The quarterly meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul took place at St. Joseph's Hall, Buckle street, on last Sunday. Bro. J. E. Gamble presided, and there was a good attendance of delegates from the various branches of the circumscription. Among those present were the Rev. Fathers Hurley, S.M., Adm., and Dignan, S.M. The reports presented disclosed that much good work is being accomplished both spiritually and materially. The Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., Adm., gave an interesting and instructive address on the causes, and the remedy for the much discussed question of the leakage from the Church. He said that the experience of the clergy was that the greatest loss occurred after the school age and prior to attaining manhood, and he suggested that this was a work which required the vigilance of the members of the society, and one of the means to accomplish this work would be for the members to each take a number of boys under their own personal supervision. It was decided to bring this matter under the urgent notice of conferences for action. Father Hurley was thanked for his address on the motion of the president, which was carried by acclamation.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

July 26.

An enjoyable social gathering was held on Wednesday evening, July 25, in St. Leo's Schoolroom, Devonport. The event was arranged to enable the parishioners to assemble for the purpose of entertaining the Rev. Father O'Brien, and of making a presentation to him prior to leaving the parish on transfer to Ponsonby. Mr. J. P. Wright presided, and expressed the parishioners' regret at Father O'Brien's severance from them. The speaker also referred to the much-appreciated services of Father O'Brien among the people of Devonport to whom he had become greatly endeared. After the Rev. Father O'Brien had appropriately replied, several musical numbers were contributed, and "Auld Lang Syne" was sung in conclusion.

Much merriment was occasioned in Auckland at the plight of that notorious Orange firebrand, Howard Elliott, over a recent happening. The residence of this individual had been, for some time, it appears, bombarded nightly with stones. Some of these were hurled through the windows with such violence that considerable damage was effected. A state of terror existed in the household. Another "Romish" outrage concluded this peace-disturber. Police protection was sought, and as a result representatives of the force secreted themselves in the vicinity of Elliott's home. Their vigil was soon rewarded. Three youths were secured red-handed, one of whom, the ringleader, was budding into manhood. Elliott was informed of the capture by the police, and, rubbing his hands in glee, exclaimed: "Thank you so much, officers. Who are they? What are they?" The unwelcome news conveyed by the minions of the law was: "They are the sons of your own parishioners, and two of them are sons of Orangemen." The face of King Billy's disciple was a study. His visions of pabulum for his public meeting in the Town Hall had vanished. Another "Romish outrage" was exploded. Worst of all, this "outrage" was ventilated in the Auckland Police Court, and the whole city was hilarious.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 28.

The nett result of the social held under the auspices of the school committee recently was £75. A similar function to be held on September 12 at the Alexandra Hall is being promoted.

Permission has been given Very Rev. Dean Vandyk, Superior of the Mill Hill Fathers, to appeal to the Cathedral parishioners on behalf of the Maori missions, during the month of September.

Rev. Father Cooney is still in Lewisham Hospital, but his many friends will be pleased to know that he has very much improved. The Cathedral clergy are in the meantime attending to the Lyttelton parish.

The ordinary meeting of St. Matthew's (Ladies') branch, H.A.C.B. Society, was held in the Hibernian Hall on July 23, Sister Ethel Rodgers presiding. Three new members were initiated. The usual social held in conjunction with the branch meeting was thoroughly enjoyed. An entertaining programme was contributed to by a number of those present.

An enjoyable euchre and social was given under the auspices of St. Matthew's (ladies') branch H.A.C.B. Society, on last Thursday evening in the Hibernian Hall. Among those present were the Rev. Fathers Cronin, Long, and T. Hanrahan. Mrs. Ernie and Mr. M. J. Flannelly were the winners of the first prizes in euchre, and Miss Hanna and Mr. Bell the consolation prizes. Sister Miles' services as pianiste met with general appreciation.

At the ordinary meeting of St. Mary's branch, H.A.C.B. Society, held last week, there was a good attendance of members. Bro. P. Gunn presided. Two new members were initiated, and the meeting resolved itself into a social evening tendered to the Children of Mary, who had so ably assisted the Hibernian Society at the recent social held in the Art Gallery. The Rev. Father Roche, S.M. (chaplain) and Rev. Father Seymour, S.M., were present. A musical programme was contributed to by Misses Goggin and Cassin, Messrs. A. P. Delacour, L. Blake, and Rev. Father Seymour (songs), Misses Cosgrove and Gray (violin solos), and Miss Cosgrove (piano solo).

The ordinary meeting of St. Patrick's branch, No. 82, H.A.C.B. Society, was held on July 16, Bro. J. Jacques, B.P., presiding. There was a good attendance of members. Sick pay amounting to £14 16s 2d and accounts for £80 10s 2d were passed for payment. The balance sheet for the past quarter was read and adopted, as was also the very favorable report of the auditors, Bros. Garty and Walls. The sick and funeral fund showed an increase of £55 9s 5d, whilst the management fund also showed an increase of £7 11s 9d. The hall committee's balance sheet was submitted, and showed a credit balance of £13 5s 9d. One new member was elected, one accepted by clearance, and two candidates were nominated.

There was a large gathering at the Art Gallery last week on the occasion of the presentation of diplomas, medals, and certificates gained in the local examinations of the Trinity College of Music, London, in 1916. It is worthy of note that out of four instrumentalists selected to entertain the audience three were pupils of the Sisters of the Missions: Ida Bradford, Helena Keane, and Kitty Murphy (the latter being the youngest L.T.C.L. for 1916). The pupils of the Sisters of the Missions secured three diplomas, 29 honors certificates, and 29 pass certificates. The Sisters of Mercy (St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street) pupils secured one diploma, three higher local passes, three senior division, six intermediate, 12 junior, and six preparatory. Thirty-two honors certificates were obtained throughout. Sisters of Mercy, Darfield, secured two senior passes (one with honors), three intermediate, three junior (one with honors), two preparatory (one with honors).