

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

August 11.

The Right Rev. Dr. Verdon, Bishop of Dunedin, the Right Rev. Dr. Brodie, Bishop of Christchurch, and the Right Rev. Mgr. Mahoney, V.G. (Diocesan Administrator), of Auckland, were visitors to Wellington during the week.

The Marist Old Boys' 3rd grade football team met and defeated Wadestown by 4 goals to 1 on Saturday, August 4. With four points each the Marists, Institute, and Karori teams are equal for the championship. The Marist 4th grade team met and defeated Empire by 1 goal to nil, after an interesting game. The Marists are now leading the Empire team by two points.

There was a large attendance at St. Anne's Church last Sunday, when Solemn High Mass was celebrated for peace. The Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., was celebrant, Rev. Father Campbell, S.M., deacon, and Rev. Father Mark Devoy, S.M., subdeacon. The Rev. Father Kimbell preached an eloquent sermon, and the choir, conducted by Mr. E. B. L. Reade, rendered the incidental music.

The Wellington Diocesan Executive of the Catholic Federation met on last Tuesday evening, the president, the Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., Adm., presiding. There was a full attendance of members. A large amount of correspondence was dealt with. Good reports from the various branches in the archdiocese were received, all tending to show that the excellent work of last year would easily be equalled this year. Much of the time of the executive was taken up in dealing with the reports and business referred to the executive by the council at its annual meeting.

Congregations attending Catholic churches throughout the Wellington archdiocese last week held meetings of protest against the conscription of Marist Brothers. Those present at each meeting pledged themselves to resist the conscription of priests, Brothers, and theological students "by every constitutional means." To-day the resolutions were to have been forwarded to the Prime Minister and the members of Parliament for each district. Mr. D. R. Lawlor presided at the meeting of parishioners of St. Mary of the Angels Church, Boulcott Street. Catholics had again to raise their voices, he said, against the monstrous attempt to conscript priests, Brothers, and students. A few sectarian bigots had dared even to question Catholic loyalty and the more than proportionate sacrifice Catholics were making in the number of men sent and being sent to the front. The Catholic chaplains, too, had done their part nobly and well. A similar motion was carried at St. Joseph's, Messrs. J. J. L. Burke, B. Nolan, M. J. Reardon, and W. Gamble, speaking in support of it. Also at St. Anne's, which was moved by Messrs. Gamble, and Hoskins. St. Francis, Island Bay, by Mr. P. J. O'Regan, and St. Patrick's, Kilbirnie.

The part old boys of the Marist Brothers' School have taken in the war was stressed by Mr. J. J. McGrath at a meeting of Catholics held last Sunday evening. He stated that the Honors Board at the Tasman Street School has on it the names of over 100 old boys. Included among their honors are the V.C., and more than one D.C.M., D.S.O., and Military Cross. The advance guard of the Main Body, consisting of 1100 men, had approximately 500 Catholics in it. Nearly all these received their education and physical training at the hands of the Marist Brothers. "Looking with pride a little while ago at a photo of the Tinian Marist Brothers' football team, trained by our devoted Brother Egbert, I found," said Mr. McGrath, "that every member of the team had voluntarily enlisted, either in

the Main Body or in very early Reinforcements. Eight of these boys, including two who left with the Main Body, are still in action, four have been severely wounded on the battlefield, and three have been killed in action. Before our force left Egypt a football match was arranged between an English regiment and a Canterbury (New Zealand) regiment. Of the fifteen players selected for the Canterbury regiment, ten were Marist Old Boys from Christchurch."

After the meeting of the Hibernian Society at St. Patrick's Hall last evening, a social was held between the members of the society and members of the Catholic Club. A very pleasant time was spent with music, song, and story. The attendance was not as large as that at similar gatherings held, and the depletion of members of both bodies owing to the war was very noticeable, as the Rolls of Honor in the club-room and lodge-room bear ample testimony to the fighting spirit of both bodies. Some feeling references were made by members, during which it was stated that 500 Hibernians of New Zealand are at the war, of whom 50 belong to St. Patrick's (Wellington) branch. The remaining members of the society are paying the contributions of these members to keep them financial, approximating £1500 per annum. This is a sacrifice drawn from a class of people by no means wealthy. Mr. H. McKeown, who is a life vice-president of the Catholic Club, in proposing the toast of "Absent Friends," reminded those present that the Catholic Club sprang into being from the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association in the early nineties. He referred to the fact that most of those present had received their tuition in school days from the Marist Brothers, and he regretted that the authorities should insist on the conscription of Brothers. The remarks met with the hearty applause of those present.

CATHOLIC FIELD SERVICE FUND.

The Dominion treasurer of the Catholic Federation acknowledges the receipt of the following additional donations to the field service fund:

Amount previously acknowledged	...	£1734	13	9
Felding and District Patriotic Society	...	£50	0	0
Through Editor <i>N.Z. Tablet</i> , F. Rose, Woodend, North Canterbury	...	0	5	0
			50	5
			£1784	18
Less -				
Expenditure, as previously detailed	...	£1063	5	10
Chaplain-Captain O'Flynn	...	25	0	0
			1088	5
Balance at credit	...		£696	12

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

August 13.

The Rev. Father Cooney, diocesan examiner of Catholic schools in religious knowledge, is to visit the suburban schools of the Cathedral parish during this week.

St. Mary's Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be pleased to receive donations of magazines, copies of the *Tablet*, or *Messengers*, for the benefit of patients in the local public hospital.

At the carnival to be held in November in connection with St. Mary's parish, the tobacco stall is to be in charge of Nurse Doherty, and the Telegraph Office, Hoop-la, etc., in charge of Miss Marie Banfield. These were omitted from list previously published.

The renovation of the sanctuary of St. Mary's Church, as well as the erection of a new episcopal throne are due to the Altar Society, under the presi-