

surplus was shown over working expenses last year, there is still a debt of several thousands on the property.

In dealing very fully with the scholarship scheme he pointed out the absolute necessity of higher education for our boys, and of the efforts of the Federation in this diocese to provide at least two scholarships each year, sufficiently well endowed to permit of three years' college education. The conditions as explained showed that the financial arrangements were entirely dependent on the membership of the Federation in the diocese, and thus increased membership meant increased scholarship facilities.

Mr. F. J. Doolan, in his opening remarks, thanked Father Hanrahan for his invitation to visit the parish, and expressed appreciation of the services rendered by the parish secretary and committee during the past year. In commenting on the Field Service Fund, and its probable closing at an early date, he pointed out that close on £8000 had been collected, and the chaplains had placed on record the vast amount of good accomplished by it, and of the incalculable assistance it had been to them in their trying duties. A letter was read from Surgeon-General Henderson, Director of Medical Services, who, previous to his departure from the Dominion, conveyed in glowing terms his warm appreciation of the work carried out by the Field Service Fund among the soldiers in the camps and hospitals. This fund was initiated and administered by the officers of the Federation free of any expense to the fund, which speaks volumes for the up-to-date methods of our organisation.

In dealing with the education question, reference was made to the remarkable growth of our system, to the number of primary and secondary schools and colleges, together with the number of pupils attending them, and to the devoted band of priests, Brothers, and Sisters engaged in teaching. The speaker congratulated the parish on the satisfactory increase in membership for the past year, and in conclusion urged the practical assistance of all in the parish in carrying on the work of the Federation in the future.

Father Hanrahan, in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers, congratulated them on their interesting addresses and warmly advocated visits to branches such as the one under notice, which tended to bring members directly in touch with the officials and with the workings of the Federation. Knowing something now of the work carried on during the past year, he could (he said) assure the visitors that his parishioners and himself would do everything possible to assist a movement which was so conducive to the interests of the Church and her institutions.

A VENERABLE JUBILARIAN: REV MOTHER MARY

CELEBRATIONS AT NAPIER CONVENT.

During the past week there have been great jubiliations at the Napier Convent in honor of the golden jubilee, or 50th anniversary of the profession of Rev. Mother Mary, Prioress at the Napier Convent (writes our own correspondent, under date May 23). This venerable jubilarian, who is a native of dear old France, was professed in the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions at Lyons, France, 50 years ago, subsequently going to Samoa and adjacent islands, and thence New Zealand, where for many years she has carried on her great work in the various districts. She has been in charge of the Napier Convent for several years past.

On Monday, May 19, the day of her jubilee, special religious services were held, High Mass being celebrated by Rev. Father J. Tymons at the convent chapel in the morning. The chapel was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the floral adornments being in gold and white blooms, drooping ferns and candelabra. Bordese's Mass was sung by the Sisters and boarders, the beautiful French hymn, "Lesangeles," being rendered

at the Offertory. Father Tymons delivered an eloquent and appropriate discourse, congratulating Rev. Mother Mary on the attainment of her jubilee, and eulogising the great work she had done during the years of her profession. In the evening Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Father Dowling.

On Wednesday afternoon the children took occasion to pay honor to the venerable prioress, under whose charge they had spent such happy times, and Rev. Mother was entertained by the children of the four combined convent schools to a very enjoyable concert. The first part of the programme was occupied with making the numerous presentations from the children and Sisters. These gifts included numerous floral bouquets of divers shapes in white and gold blooms and streamers *en suite*. Perhaps the prettiest of all was a large floral bell, so arranged as to ring out best wishes to the recipient. She also received many handsome specimens of fancy work and painting, the work of the pupils and Sisters, and several substantial monetary gifts from the children, which are to be devoted to the erection of a grotto of our Lady of Lourdes, in memory of this great occasion. Addresses of congratulation were given by Father Dowling and Mr. W. J. McGrath, after which Rev. Mother made suitable response, thanking all for their kindly expressions, and extending best wishes and blessings to all.

A lengthy programme of the choicest items in music, song, elocution, and dance was contributed. The items were all worthy of special mention, the children having spared not their energies to bring about the success of the entertainment. The "Fan" dance, the "Rose and Butterfly" dance, and not forgetting the "Marseillaise," the vocalists wearing the national costume, and singing in French, were very attractive items.

Subsequent to the entertainment, the smaller children, numbering about 300, were entertained to afternoon tea in the courtyard, where a very happy picture was presented as the little ones did justice to the delicious viands spread before them.

At 6 p.m. a grand dinner was held in the school-room, when about 150 guests, including Fathers Tymons and Dowling, Brothers Paul, Henrique, and Donatus, the Children of Mary, and High School and Maori boarders, were entertained. The tables were exquisitely decorated with the appropriate gold and white (the keynote throughout), flowers, ribbons, and electrical effects, the jubilee cake being set in the centre. The bell, horseshoe, and other floral tributes were arranged overhead in centre also. During the dinner, which was a source of much delight to the participants, brief addresses were again delivered by Fathers Tymons and Dowling. Subsequently the Children of Mary presented Rev. Mother with a monetary gift towards the grotto.

The hall was cleared, and many of the concert items were repeated for the benefit of the adults. A brief dancing programme was also indulged in, and a highly successful celebration was brought to a fitting conclusion with best wishes for the venerable jubilarian's future health and prosperity.

Rev. Mother was the recipient of congratulatory messages and gifts from various parts of the Dominion.

The Napier Convent holds the honor of having had the only two jubilarians in the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions in New Zealand at their convent, they being Rev. Mother Mary, whose jubilee has just been celebrated, and Mother M. St. Ignatius, who celebrated her jubilee about three years ago.

DUNEDIN SHOW WEEK

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