

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

July 4.

Widespread regret was felt at the death of Miss Annie Winifred Hogan, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. Hogan, of Munroe Street, which occurred on Saturday last. The deceased young lady, who was 24 years of age, had by her gentle and loving ways endeared herself to a wide circle of friends in the Napier and Taradale districts. She had been ill for some time, and had borne her suffering with the utmost fortitude and patience. Deepest sympathy is extended to her sorrowing mother and sister.—R.I.P.

Mr. Paul Verschaffelt, of the Public Trust Department, formerly secretary to the Public Service Commissioners, and who recently succeeded in obtaining his LL.B. degree, is an old Napier boy, and was educated at the Napier Marist Brothers' School. It is pleasing to note that several Marist old boys have recently distinguished themselves.

Father Ainsworth (Marist Missioner) spent last week end in Napier.

Rev. Brother Egbert is now teaching at the Marist Brothers' School here.

On Wednesday evening (25th) the Napier Fire Brigade received a call to the Napier Convent at 9.20 p.m., where a shed near the gardener's cottage had taken fire. No serious damage was done.

A very successful Catholic social, in aid of the bazaar to be held shortly in connection with the rebuilding of the Napier Convent, was held in the Napier Drill Hall, on Wednesday evening, June 25, when, despite the very stormy weather prevailing, some 60 couples assembled and a very enjoyable time was spent. The hall was beautifully decorated with ferns and burning, kindly left from the Kaiwaka hall, and the hall was in excellent condition. Miss Cox's band of five instrumentalists supplied the music, and music for extras was played by Misses Kathleen O'Donoghue and Cox. Mr. J. Walsh acted as M.C. The energetic secretary (Mr. R. A. Keenan) and his assistants, also the ladies' committee in charge of the supper arrangements, carried out their duties to the entire satisfaction of all. The number of tickets sold was considerable, and the nett result will undoubtedly be very gratifying.

The annual public observance of the Feast of Corpus Christi was held at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday week last, midst very favorable weather. The congregation numbered nearly 1000, and the clergy present were Rev. Dr. Martin (Meeanee), Fathers W. Tymons and Dowling (Napier), and Hickson (Meeanee). The Rosary was recited at 2.30 p.m., subsequent to which an appropriate discourse was delivered by Father Dowling. This was followed by the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, the route being via Clive Square, Munroe Street, and Clive Square. The order of the procession was—Cross-bearer and acolytes, Convent children, Sacred Heart children, Children of Mary, Marist Brothers' pupils, women of the parish, men of the parish, Hibernian Society, choir, and canopy covering the Blessed Sacrament. Hymns were rendered by the school and church choirs during the procession, subsequent to which services were brought to a conclusion with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. At the Sacred Heart Church, Hastings, similar celebrations were held, an impressive sermon being preached by Father Geaney.

The impressive ceremony, the consecration of the parish to the Sacred Heart, took place at St. Patrick's Church last Sunday night.

New Plymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

July 7.

The annual meeting of the New Plymouth branch of the Catholic Federation was held at the Rolland Hall after Vespers on Sunday, July 7, Father Kelly presiding over a fairly large attendance. The balance sheet for the year was read and adopted, and, on the motion of Father Kelly, the outgoing committee, who had rendered good service for the cause of the Federation in New Plymouth, were re-elected for the ensuing year. Father Kelly stated that although the Federation was working well in New Plymouth, a much larger membership of this all-important organisation was easily possible and most desirable. At the conclusion of the meeting Father Kelly, on behalf of the members of the Federation, bade farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Green, who are shortly leaving New Plymouth for Dunedin. He spoke in very eulogistic terms of the work of the two departing members, and wished them every success in their new home. Mr. Green suitably responded to the good wishes of Father Kelly, and stated that what he had done for the Federation was only that expected of him as a Catholic.

The members of the recently formed Avoca Catholic Girls' Hockey Club are making splendid headway with regard to the game, and have been successful in some of their matches. Apart from their hockey matches, they have banded themselves together to arrange for welcome homes to the Catholic boys who are now returning from the Front.

The parish and Convent high schools are at present on their winter vacation.

It is rumored that an endeavor is being made to organise a bazaar on an extensive scale to clear the debt off the church.

TO ERIN'S MARTYRS.

(For the N.Z. Tablet.)

God girt them with the armor of His grace
And fortitude to carry Erin's cross—
And from high Heaven, their intrepid souls,
Relucant with the crown of martyrdom,
Shine down upon the altars of our race—
A sacred holocaust to liberty:
Not marble tomb—nor purple panoply
Shroud their proud dust—but pall of Erin's tears
Sheds glory o'er their immortality—
By sacrifice their deeds are sanctified—
Their names are shrined in every Irish heart;
They are not dead! who breathe into our cause
The deathless spirit of fidelity:
From out the icy silence of the grave
Their voices speak as tongues of living fire,
Burning into our hearts that holy vow
For which they died: and by their blood we cleave
Unto their heritage of sufferings.
Just God! Thou art not mocked by tyranny—
And they who bore this cross unto Thy feet
Across the weary centuries of woe,
Look now upon the dawn their labors wrought.

Christchurch.

—CYLAS.



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