

There was quite a number of marriages this week. Miss Annie Stella Kay, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kay, of Karori, was married to Mr. Robert McClune, of 'Grand View,' Bombay, Auckland, at the Sacred Heart Basilica. The Rev. Father Peoples officiated. The Rev. Father Hickson officiated at the marriage of Miss Beatrice Noon, youngest daughter of Mrs. Noon, of Grant road, to Mr. James Maher, of Westport, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Miss May Driscoll, well known in musical circles, was married by the Rev. Father Ainsworth, S.M., at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, to Mr. W. S. Pearce, youngest son of Colonel Pearce.

The King's Festival is the title given to the bazaar now in full swing at the Town Hall, and organised by the parishioners of Thorndon with the object of extinguishing the debt on the St. Vincent's school-chapel, Northlands. The function was opened on Saturday, April 15, by Mr. R. Fletcher (Chairman of the Wellington Harbor Board). There was a large attendance of the public, and his Grace Archbishop Redwood was present. The hall is tastefully decorated, and the various stalls temptingly arrayed with many useful and valuable articles ranging from a piano to the useful bazaar cushion. The stall-holders and their assistants are working hard to dispose of these, with the result that there is every indication that the worthy object of the bazaar will be attained. During the week tugs-of-war have been arranged, teams representing the Tramways, Staples' brewery, Building trades, and Druids have tried conclusions. A Marathon race from the Town Hall to Island Bay and back drew eight entrants, and proved a novel and interesting item, as each competitor arrived in the hall and finished his run on the track provided. The honors for this race fell to Mr. P. J. Fitzgerald, who was the first to arrive. The leading feature without a doubt is the spectacular and fancy dancing by some 200 young ladies, who have proved very apt pupils, under the direction of Signor Borzoni. The dancing alone is well worth seeing, and the Signor is to be complimented on the excellent results of his tuition. On Wednesday night a squad from the Wellington City Rifles, under Col.-Sergt. T. Davis, gave an exhibition of drill, which drew forth from the spectators well-merited applause. The Marist Brothers' Cadets on Friday evening marched through the Town to the hall, and, in conjunction with the St. Anne's Cadets, gave exhibitions of drill which were very much appreciated. This afternoon a matinee for the children is being held, and the bazaar will be continued next week, concluding on Saturday evening. The bazaar is under the able management of Rev. Father Peoples, with Mr. George McNamara as general secretary. The stalls and stallholders are as follow:—The King's Stall: Mrs Mackin, Miss Halse, Miss A. Kennedy, and Miss Devine. Refreshment Stall: Mrs. Keefe and Miss Saunders, with a great many assistants. Prince of Wales's Stall: Miss O'Malley and Mrs. Steward. Queen's Stall: Mrs. Gibbs. The Princess Mary Stall: Mrs. Putnam and the Misses Putnam. Fortune-telling (in connection with the King's Stall): Miss Butler. Art Gallery: The Misses Burke (2). The Alexandra Stall (supplied and entirely in the charge of several Northland ladies): Mrs. Macnamara, Miss Whittaker, and Mrs. Ross. A small army of assistants is attached to each stall.

Feilding

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The first day's rain, practically, since November, was experienced last week, thus brightening somewhat the prospects for the approaching winter. The long continued drought was certainly having a disastrous effect on the northern districts.

Our new pastor, Rev. Father O'Dwyer, and his assistant priest, Rev. Father Kincaid, both of whom are eloquent preachers, have already become very popular in the community. Their devoted attention in matters pertaining to the spiritual well-being of the Catholic population and interest in the material progress of their flock are much appreciated.

The devotions during Lent were very well attended. On Holy Thursday there was a crowded congregation at Mass, which was followed by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose, in which the sodality of Children of Mary and school children participated. At the Mass of the Presanctified on Good Friday the church was again crowded. On Easter Sunday at St. Bridget's Church there were large congregations at all the Masses, and great numbers approached the Holy Table at the Mass celebrated at 8 o'clock. At Vespers the Rev. Father Kincaid preached an impressive discourse on the Resurrection. Mass was also celebrated on Easter Sunday at the outlying stations of the parochial district.

A complimentary social gathering was tendered to the Rev. Father Daly, late assistant priest and some time acting-pastor of Feilding, in the Parish Hall on last Tuesday evening. After a varied programme of popular items, the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, who presided, said it gave him very much pleasure to be present at such a large gathering, to do honor to the guest of the evening, and to see his people recognise in a practical manner the good work done by Father Daly. Being himself a comparative stranger among them, he was unable to speak from experience in this

regard, and would entrust to the congregation the pleasing duty of expressing its sentiments of appreciation. The Rev. Father O'Dwyer then asked Mr. John Wilson to speak on behalf of the parishioners.

Mr. Wilson referred to the difficulties experienced by Father Daly coming almost fresh from ordination to an important centre, and a widely scattered parochial district, and especially at a time when great energy and administrative ability were needed, owing to the serious illness and subsequent death of the pastor, Father O'Meara. The manner in which Father Daly accomplished his arduous tasks and seemingly endless duties had won not alone their love and admiration, but their enduring gratitude and appreciation. Mr. Wilson alluded to the comfort and consolation afforded Father O'Meara who, when lying in death's grasp at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, knew that the people he loved so well were being carefully tended by his zealous curate. He spoke of the recently constituted parochial district of Upper Hutt, which, as a centre of Catholic activity, was nearly as old as the European settlement of the Dominion itself, to which Father Daly had been appointed the first resident parish priest. He was confident that Father Daly would follow closely in the footsteps of those heroic men of God—the early missionary Fathers—who had there spent long years of laborious toil, and whose memories were held in the deepest veneration. Wishing Father Daly very many years of health and strength in the sacred ministry and complete success in all his undertakings for the glory of God and advancement of the Church, Mr. Wilson asked Father Daly's acceptance of a purse of sovereigns as a slight return for duties well and faithfully accomplished.

Rev. Father Daly, in feeling terms, thanked most sincerely his late parishioners for their kindly thoughtfulness in promoting such an enjoyable gathering, and especially for that one more tangible proof of the generosity of the people of the district. He assured them of the affection he had for the people in that, the first scene of his priestly duties. Refreshments were provided, and the Misses Shortall, who made the arrangements for the social gathering and entertainment of the visitors, are very cordially thanked for, and complimented on the result.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

April 24.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes left last week for the North Island, and will spend a brief time at Te Aroha.

During the Easter holidays a concert was given at Hanmer by the Dresden Concert Company in aid of the local Catholic church building fund, with satisfactory results.

Whilst passing through to the North Island last week his Lordship Bishop Verdon spent the day as the guest of the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., at the Cathedral parochial residence. The Rev. Father Cahill, of Huntly, on passing through Christchurch last week, was also the guest of the Very Rev. Administrator.

Representative action is being taken early this week to arrange a preliminary public meeting to promote the success of the Irish Parliamentary delegates' visit to this city, and to other centres of the Christchurch diocese. Considerable interest in the visit of the delegates is already apparent, and there is every indication that the welcome to them will be popular and generous.

On Easter Monday the sanctuary boys of the Cathedral, who were joined by the teachers connected with the Christian Doctrine Confraternity, were given an excursion to, and picnic at, Purau, across Lyttelton Harbor. Showery weather during part of the afternoon somewhat marred the pleasure of the outing, nevertheless a pleasant day was spent. Several of the clergy were of the party.

The first regular fortnightly meeting of the ladies' section of the newly organised Arch-confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament was held in the Cathedral on last Tuesday evening, when there were 313 present. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy (spiritual director) gave an address on the constitution of confraternities generally, and particularly on that of the Blessed Sacrament. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament concluded the devotions, which included the congregational singing of appropriate hymns. The music of Benediction was also sung by the congregation.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

April 24.

At the 9 and 11 o'clock Masses yesterday the Rev. Father Tubman made an important statement in connection with the financial aspect of the new church building.

On Easter Sunday all the Masses were attended by crowded congregations, and at the early Masses large numbers approached the Holy Table. Rev. Father Murphy celebrated a Missa Cantata at 11 o'clock. The choir rendered Farmer's Mass, Miss E. Dennehy presiding at the organ.

The Invercargill Athletic Football Club sent a team to Timaru on Easter Saturday to try conclusions with the

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