

felt by the members that their esteemed president (Mr. Beveridge) who, since taking an active part in the affairs of the club and thereby gained much popularity, is about to leave for Australia. A musical evening is being arranged by the executive committee as a farewell to him. Members are reminded that the period for accepting subscriptions at the reduced rates terminates this month.

A quarterly general meeting of the conferences of the society of St. Vincent de Paul, under the circumscription of the Particular Council of Christchurch, was held on last Monday evening. A summary of the correspondence received and attended to since the previous quarterly meeting was given by the president. Reports were presented by the presidents of the various conferences showing energetic and satisfactory work. A special effort on behalf of the bazaar and art union, promoted in the interests of the social hall and meeting rooms' fund of St. Joseph's Conference (Mission to Catholic Seamen) at Lyttelton, to be held during the Christmas and New Year holidays, was asked of all members of the society. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm. (spiritual director), Rev. Father Hanrahan attended the meeting, and spoke briefly on the excellent efforts of the Brothers of the society and of the confraternity of Ladies of Charity in the special sphere of duties undertaken by them.

OPENING OF CHURCH AT NEW BRIGHTON

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

On the afternoon of last Sunday week, in the presence of a large gathering, the fine church, just erected at New Brighton, one of the popular seaside resorts of the citizens of Christchurch, was solemnly blessed, and dedicated in honor of the Immaculate Conception by his Lordship Bishop Grimes. Among the clergy in attendance were the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., the Very Rev. Father Price, Administrator, the Rev. Fathers Barlow (Penrith, New South Wales), Hoare, S.M., and Dignan, S.M. (St. Mary's, Christchurch North), Graham, S.M., B.A., and Quinn, S.M. (St. Bede's College).

After the ceremony of blessing the new church his Lordship the Bishop, who preached the dedication sermon, prefaced his remarks by indicating the reasons that induced the late Dean Ginaty to acquire so central and favorable a site for its erection. Although keenly realising the need of a church in that portion of St. Mary's wide parochial district, and sparing no effort in the accomplishment of this desire, the late Dean had not the privilege of being present at the laying of the foundation stone, and had passed to his eternal reward ere its construction was far advanced. This beautiful temple would, however, remain an enduring memorial of what was his last undertaking for the glory of God and the good of souls.

His Lordship delivered an eloquent discourse on the 'Divine Mission of the Catholic Church,' based on the first, second, and third verses of the 121st Psalm: 'I rejoiced at the things that were said to me. We shall go into the house of the Lord. Our feet were standing in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem, which is built as a city, which is compact together.' In conclusion, his Lordship appealed to the congregation, which crowded the church to the doors (many more being obliged to remain outside), to contribute generously to the cost of the building, one generous subscriber having already given £500, nearly half the sum required.

The impressive ceremony was closed with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at which the Bishop presided, the music being provided by the choir of St. Mary's Church, with Mrs. Cronin at the organ.

The church, which is a handsome structure in red brick, with white stone facings and tiled roof, was designed and erected by Messrs. Luttrell Brothers at a cost of £1200. It is provided with seating and all internal furnishings and completed throughout, accommodation being provided for 200 persons. A collection realised £60, with further substantial promises.

With the Church of the Immaculate Conception there are now four churches in the extensive parish of St. Mary's, Christchurch North, in charge of the Marist Fathers. There are quite a number of Catholic residents at New Brighton and its vicinity, and now that facilities are so well provided for attendance at Mass it is anticipated that there will soon be a considerable permanent congregation.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

December 18.

Rev. Father Kerrane arrived from Ireland yesterday, coming from Sydney by the Maheno.

His Lordship the Bishop left on Saturday on a visitation of Pukekohe and the surrounding district. He is due back in Auckland on Tuesday evening. His Lordship had a busy time last week in distributing prizes at the various schools, including St. Mary's Convent, and the Sacred Heart Convent. On Thursday afternoon he attended the opening of the Town Hall.

The Town Hall was opened last Thursday afternoon with much eclat. It is a magnificent structure, and one which evokes pardonable civic pride. The organ, which cost nearly £7000, was the gift of Mr. Brett, of the Auckland Star, while the tower clock was given by Mr. Myers, M.P. Both are munificent gifts, for which the citizens are deeply grateful.

On last Tuesday evening Rev. Father Williams, of Waiuku, delivered a splendid address to the members of the Holy Family Confraternity on the subject of the 'Oxford or Tractarian Movement.' Above all the eminent controversialists who figured in this historic movement the lecturer singled out as the bright particular star, the late Cardinal Newman, his long-sustained battle in pursuit of the truth, to which his giant intellect and indomitable will were drawn by the kindly light, was eloquently portrayed. His great temporal sacrifices were told of, and finally his ardent and abiding loyalty to the See of Peter, together with his puissant and profound defence against all comers, who had the temerity to attack the ancient Church, and the effect of the tractarian movement on the Established Church at the time and up to the present day, were clearly demonstrated. At the conclusion of the lecture Rev. Father Holbrook voiced the opinion of all present, when he described it as an intellectual treat, the value of which historically would, he hoped, be treasured up and put to the very best use.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

It may be news to your readers to learn that at the Auckland competitions the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School did remarkably well. As there were three prizes and only two choirs were called for the final test in the primary school choirs' contest, and as one of them made a much poorer performance than in the preliminaries, the result of the final test produced an apparent paradox, as the choir placed second gained fewer points than the one which took third prize. The award was—Devonport School, 86, 1; Newton West, 78, 2; Marist Brothers, 83, 3. In the vocal solo (boys under 15)—10 entries—Master Horace Jew, who, now attends the Sacred Heart College, secured an easy win, while one of the present pupils (Henry Adeane) came fourth with 80 marks. For the recitation for boys (Standard IV., and under) there were 27 entries. In the competition Master Joseph Moodabe was just beaten for first place. The M.B.O.B. debating team gave a good account of themselves. Mr. S. Pritchard, of the musical branch, came out top in the bass solo, while Mr. F. Adeane secured first prize in the operatic tenor solo, and last, but not least, our champion, Mr. E. Casey, won both the impromptu and prepared speeches.

During the elections the women voters were sorely puzzled to decide between the merits of rival candidates, but there is a general consensus of opinion amongst all housewives that Hondai Lanka tea need fear no rival, and in a referendum would top the poll...