

ment to establish the Catholic Federation in Christchurch, met on last Sunday afternoon. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., presided, and the Very Rev. Father Price, D.C., Adm., was present. There was a good attendance, much interest being taken in the proceedings. A large amount of correspondence was read by the secretary, and dealt with. It was decided that the organising Committee should continue in office as a provisional Diocesan Council, pending the receipt of the remaining names of representatives of parish committees, to enable the formation of the Diocesan Council proper; also that all parishes be advised that a meeting of all parish representatives will be held in Christchurch on Thursday, May 8, to establish the Diocesan Council, and elect officers thereon in accordance with the constitution and rules of the Federation. All parishes are urged to expedite the enrolment of members in the Federation, and report the number of members and moneys received to the diocesan secretary and treasurer in accordance with Clause (B) of rules and regulations (11). Attention was called to the reported intention of the Government to subsidise an exclusively denominational organisation in connection with girl immigrants, and it was unanimously decided to recommend the provisional Dominion Executive at Wellington to at once enter a strong protest unless the same consideration is shown towards the Catholic associations of ladies that are doing, or are prepared to do, the same work in all the chief centres in New Zealand.

Wanganui

The services and ceremonies of Holy Week were carried out in their entirety in St. Mary's Church. The solemn Office of Tenebræ was sung by Very Rev. Dean Holley and Rev. Fathers Mahony, Moloney, Ginisty (Jerusalem), and Brother Fidelis. The sermon on the Blessed Eucharist on Holy Thursday evening was preached by Rev. Father Moloney, and that on the Passion on Good Friday evening by Rev. Father Mahony. Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Mahony on Holy Thursday morning, Very Rev. Dean Holley being deacon, Rev. Father Ginisty subdeacon, and Rev. Father Moloney master of ceremonies. The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the Children of Mary took part in the procession to the Altar of Repose. The Sisters of St. Joseph and the members of St. Vincent de Paul Society were responsible for the decoration of the Altar of Repose. The members of the three conferences of the St. Vincent de Paul Society were the watchers and adorers of the Blessed Sacrament from Holy Thursday night at 9 o'clock until 9 o'clock on Good Friday morning, at which hour the solemn ceremonies commenced. Very Rev. Dean Holley was celebrant of the Mass, Rev. Father Mahony deacon, Father Ginisty subdeacon, and Father Moloney master of ceremonies. The Passion was sung by Very Rev. Dean Holley and Rev. Fathers Mahony and Moloney. At 3 o'clock a large congregation assisted at the Stations of the Cross. The ceremonies of Holy Saturday morning commenced at 6.30 o'clock. The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. Father Ginisty, Rev. Father Mahony being deacon, Rev. Father Moloney subdeacon. At 10.30 o'clock on Easter Sunday Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Very Rev. Dean Holley, Rev. Father Mahony being deacon, Rev. Father Ginisty subdeacon, and Rev. Father Moloney master of ceremonies. The occasional sermon was preached by Very Rev. Dean Holley. Before preaching he thanked all who had assisted in the Holy Week ceremonies, especially the choir, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The quarterly meeting of the Hibernian Society was held on March 25, when a large number of members were present, also Bro. T. Johnson, of the Levin branch. One candidate was initiated. A gold medal is to be presented at the half-yearly meeting in January, 1914, to the member who introduces the most new members up to that date. Bro. E. H. McDonald, who is a very active member of the Wanganui Rowing Club, scored some of the events in the Wellington Amateur Rowing Championships held during the Easter week.

By the last London mail the following pupils of the Convent High School received certificates for shorthand (Pitman's):—Elementary certificates, Cecily Griffin, Beatrice Salmond, and Ella Palmer; speed certificates have been obtained by Miss Cecily Griffin.

At the teachers' examination held in January last the Sisters of St. Joseph, Wanganui, had the following successes:—Passed in four subjects in C, Teresa Vickers; passed in three subjects in C, Mary Casey; passed in two subjects in C, Annie Delahunty and Mary O'Connell; passed full D, Teresa Vickers, Ellen Moroney, Josephine Lloyd, and Gertrude Hogan; partial D, Jessie M. W. Chisholm.

At St. Mary's Church on Easter Sunday night, Mr. Arthur Towsey gave his farewell organ recital, when a well-chosen and varied programme was played. At the conclusion of the recital Mr. Towsey, Mr. and Mrs. Spillane, and the members of the choir were entertained by the clergy at St. Mary's presbytery, when Dean Holley expressed his appreciation of Mr. Towsey's good work as organist of St. Mary's, and presented him with a purse of sovereigns, being the offertory at the recital. On behalf of the choir, the Dean also presented Mr. Towsey with an umbrella and a cigarette holder with silver case. Mr. Towsey feelingly responded, expressing his regret at having to leave Wanganui.

Petone

At His Majesty's Theatre, Petone, on St. Patrick's Night, lovers of music of the 'Emerald Isle' were accorded a fine treat in the form of appropriate entertainment, in thorough keeping with St. Patrick's Day. Every available seat in the theatre was occupied, and the patriotic audience gave vent to their feelings by encoring the majority of the items. Mrs. Ferguson, who most feelingly rendered 'The Irish emigrant' and 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' was vigorously encored. Her first number was particularly sweet and pleasing. Mr. J. Wray was called upon to repeat 'The dear little shamrock.' 'The singer was Irish,' a dainty little ballad interpreted by Mrs. Casey, was encored. Later on Mr. and Mrs. Casey sang the duet, 'Believe me, if all those endearing young charms.' Their voices blended nicely, and the item was greatly appreciated. The humorous items were in the capable hands of Mr. J. Delahunty and Mr. Corliss, who gave elocutionary Irish recitals. Miss E. Gaynor gave a first-class rendering of 'Believe me, if all,' with variations, on the pianoforte. Miss Violet Chase and Master Hamish Donaldson danced Irish jigs, and were both encored. Others performers who made up the excellent programme, were Miss O'Sullivan, who sang 'Avourneen' and 'An Irish lullaby'; Mr. M. Ryan, 'Noreen Mavourneen' (encored); Mr. H. Parker, 'Wearing of the green' and 'Don't forget old Ireland' (encored); Mr. P. Casey, 'Eileen Alannah,' and Mr. T. Walsh, song and chorus, 'A toast to Erin.' Appropriate music was rendered by Mr. McMenamin's orchestra, and the Rev. Father McMenamin played the accompaniments. The musical items were interspersed with suitable motion pictures supplied by the Mascotte Picture Co.

Eltham

There was a good attendance at the Town Hall, Eltham, on March 26, when a concert was held in aid of the funds of the local Catholic Church. Every arrangement had been made to ensure a successful evening by the secretary (Mr. Whiteford) and a hard-working committee, and their efforts were well-rewarded. The following were the contributions to the programme: Overture, 'March Hongroise,' Mrs. O'Hagan; quartet, 'Eileen Alannah,' church choir; solo, Mrs. Beesley; duet, Messrs. Walters and Coombridge; solo, Miss Craig; solo, Mr. G. Walters; duet, Mrs. Beesley and Mr. Coombridge; and a solo by Mr. Bailey. All the items were very well rendered, and were heartily applauded. This was followed by a farce entitled 'An Irish doctor,' taken part in by Miss M. Coffey, and Messrs A. Coffey and L. Theobald. It was a most amusing piece, and was very well presented, creating much laughter and eliciting prolonged applause.

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