

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

April 28.

Mr. Henry St. George will this year conduct the examinations in connection with the Trinity College of Music in New Zealand.

The annual Literary and Musical Competitions, which began about a fortnight ago, are being continued this week in the presence of crowded audiences. Catholic competitors are meeting with considerable success. Later on I will supply a summary of the distinctions secured by our Catholic competitors.

Mr. Allen Doone has played to full houses nightly during his present season at the Theatre Royal. The Irish plays comprised in his repertoire caught popular favor from the first, and there appears not the slightest doubt that were he and his talented company to extend their stay in this city several weeks longer, there would still be crowded audiences.

The centenary of Frederic Ozanam, founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, was fittingly observed in Christchurch on Sunday last. Brothers of the society, and members of the confraternity of Ladies of Charity approached the Holy Table at the early Masses. In the afternoon over seventy, exclusive of visitors, assembled in the chapel of Nazareth House, when a very fine discourse on the life and good deeds of Ozanam was given by the Very Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A., rector of St. Bede's College. This was followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the incidental music as usual being beautifully sung by the Sisters and children of the institution. All present very highly appreciated the kindness and thoughtful attention shown by the Rev. Mother and Sisters of Nazareth.

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

Notwithstanding strong representations made him, our respected Catholic townsman, Mr. M. J. Burgess, has declined nomination as one of the candidates for representation on our local Borough Council.

The bazaar just concluded in connection with the Methven church has proved a greater success than was anticipated. Rev. Dr. Kennedy stated that the receipts have been between £600 and £700. The bazaar was freely patronised by many of the Ashburton people.

The Hibernian Society and the Catholic Club met on Tuesday last for the purpose of trying conclusions in a euchre tournament. The games were very interesting throughout, and on a tally being made the Hibernians were declared the winners. The Catholic Club entertained the Hibernians on the conclusion of the tournament, a most successful evening terminating with the singing of 'Auld lang syne.'

The committee in connection with the recent Catholic bazaar entertained the stallholders and assistants at a social gathering a few evenings ago. The first and main portion of the social was devoted to a progressive euchre tournament. Mr. J. Hanrahan won the gentleman's prize and Miss Mary Fitzgerald the lady's. All present sat down to a splendid supper, which was provided under the direction of Mr. S. Madden. The social was an unqualified success, and was a fitting closing to a successful bazaar.

In connection with his approaching marriage, Mr. M. J. Moriarty has been the recipient of several presentations. Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, in a flattering speech on behalf of the Catholic Club (of which Mr. Moriarty is vice-president) presented him with a handsome hall-stand. Several of the members spoke in very complimentary terms of Mr. Moriarty, and wished him and his intended bride every happiness and prosperity. Mr. Moriarty replied in suitable terms. The Hakatere Young Men's Club tendered a complimentary social to Mr. M. J. Moriarty to mark the occasion of his approaching marriage. The attendance of members was large, and one and all spoke in complimentary terms

of the guest of the evening. On behalf of the club members, the chairman (Mr. H. R. McElrea) presented Mr. Moriarty with a superior travelling rug, at the same time conveying to the recipient and the future Mrs. Moriarty the best wishes of his fellow-members. Mr. Moriarty in replying thanked his friends for their present, and also for their good wishes. The employees of the Ashburton *Mail* and *Guardian* met round the stone on Saturday last for the purpose of making a presentation to their old-time comrade, Mr. M. J. Moriarty. Mr. R. B. Bell (manager) spoke in high praise of Mr. Moriarty's many good qualities. On behalf of his fellow-employees, he presented Mr. Moriarty with a solid marble clock, doing so with the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Moriarty would long live to enjoy its usefulness, and that nothing but good luck would follow him in his new life. Several members of the staff took occasion to congratulate Mr. Moriarty on the step he was about to take, and wished him every good luck. Mr. Moriarty was also the recipient of a cheque from the directors of the company as a mark of their appreciation of his services.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

April 28.

Preparations are being made for bazaars in St. Benedict's and the Sacred Heart parishes.

Very Rev. Father Buckley states that the new branch of the H.A.C.B. Society at Otahuhu promises to be a pronounced success.

Rev. Father Williams, when in town last week, stated it was the intention of himself and his parishioners to establish a branch of the Hibernian Society at Taumarunui.

Mr. J. W. Callaghan, well known in Hibernian circles in Wellington, was here last week in order to take his son, now convalescent, back to Wellington. While in Auckland he was shown round by the district officers of the society.

Yesterday morning at 8 o'clock his Lordship the Bishop celebrated Mass at the Cathedral, when the members of the various conferences of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in and around the city received Holy Communion.

Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R., who has been conducting missions at Thames and Waihi, will arrive in Auckland on Tuesday afternoon. On that evening he will address the Holy Family Confraternity, and on Wednesday he will leave for New Plymouth.

Wrey's Bush

(From our own correspondent.)

A concert, organised by St. Patrick's Catholic Club, was held in the public hall on Wednesday evening, April 16. The extremely boisterous weather somewhat interfered with the attendance. The proceeds, which amounted to about £30, will go towards furnishing the reception room of the new convent.

On Tuesday evening, April 15, the members of the Nightcaps Choir presented Miss Catherine Griffen with a handsome chair on the eve of her approaching marriage. Mr. J. Richardson, in making the presentation, referred to the excellent services given by the recipient as organist in the Nightcaps church, and regretted her departure from their midst.

The new convent at Wrey's Bush, which is now nearing completion, will be solemnly blessed and opened by his Lordship Bishop Verdon on Sunday, May 4. Solemn High Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m., after which a procession, headed by the Invercargill Hibernian Band, will march from the church to the convent. The occasional sermon will be preached by the Very Rev. Dean Burke, V.F. Refreshments will be provided by the ladies of the parish, and at 3 p.m. his Lordship Bishop Verdon will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to a number of candidates.