

**ST. BENEDICT'S CLUB, AUCKLAND**

(From the club correspondent.)

'Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul,' was the subject of a lecture given by Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan, at the clubrooms on May 13, before a large audience of ladies and gentlemen. Monsignor Gillan dealt with the most important features of the great man's life, and held him up as an example for all Catholic laymen to imitate, for by his unswerving devotion to duty, his piety, and love of charity, he led a most beautiful and holy life. On the conclusion of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks to Monsignor Gillan was moved by Mr. J. J. Furlong, seconded by Mr. A. Rose, and carried with acclamation. Mr. Little (president of the St. Vincent de Paul conference of St. Benedict's) also spoke, and conveyed to Monsignor Gillan the thanks of the members of the Vincent de Paul conference.

On the following Monday night, May 19, essays on the 'Society of St. Vincent de Paul and its work' were read by the members of St. Benedict's Club. Rev. Father Doyle judged the efforts of the various competitors, and said that, considering the general excellence of the papers, he had some difficulty in determining which was the best. The paper of Mr. A. Rose appealed most to him, and he placed the essays in the following order of merit, allowing 10 marks as the maximum:—Mr. A. Rose (9½), Mr. J. J. Furlong (9½), Mr. H. Quinn (9½), Mr. A. J. Fernandez (9½), Mr. J. Duggan (9), Mr. H. Ward (8½). A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Father Doyle for acting as judge. The St. Vincent de Paul Society donated a prize of two guineas for the best essay. A vote of thanks was passed to the conference. Rev. Fathers Williams and Kreymborg, and Messrs. G. Little and F. G. Temm complimented the writers of the papers.

**Onehunga**

(From an occasional correspondent.)

May 25.

On the 16th inst. the Catholic Tennis Club held another very successful euchre party in St. Mary's Hall. The evening was fine, and a very large number attended. Mrs. Oates was successful in winning the lady's prize, whilst Mr. Howard won the gentleman's.

Mr. Joseph Dempsey who, for some time past, has taken a keen interest in the Catholic Men's Club, was recently transferred, on promotion, to the Hamilton Post Office. Mr. Dempsey was a representative on the parish committee of the Catholic Federation on behalf of the club, but now the vacancy has been filled by Mr. L. Drager.

The celebration of the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. James Nixon was held in St. Mary's Hall on Friday, May 23. Sixty years ago, on May 24, 1853, Mr. Nixon and Catherine Broderick were united in the bonds of Matrimony. They were married by the late Father Cleary in the Church of the Assumption. Mr. Nixon was married at the early age of nineteen, whilst Mrs. Nixon was still younger, being only sixteen years. The family consisted of ten children, four boys and six girls, but only five of them survive. There are, however, sixteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. All the children entertained the old couple, and a large number of their friends, in St. Mary's Hall. The Very Rev. Dean Mahoney and Rev. Father Golden were present. Mr. P. Nerheny acted as chairman. The gathering was a very enjoyable one. A very elaborate supper was served to some two hundred guests in the clubrooms. Mr. P. J. Nerheny proposed the toast of 'Mr. and Mrs. Nixon,' and it was received with musical honors.

Mr. Nixon, in responding to the toast, said it was the happiest day of his life, to think that he was there with his wife to receive the greeting of their many friends, after having lived happily together for sixty years. (Applause.) Mr. Nixon also made mention that he was apprenticed to a carpenter, but previous to that he was felling timber in the bush, and actually cut the timber of which St. Mary's Hall is built.

The supper and lengthy speeches then came to a close and the wedding cake was cut up, a piece of which was given to each person present.

Mr. Nixon is still a staunch Hibernian, and it is the hope of their many friends that he and Mrs. Nixon may be spared for many years.

**Gisborne**

(From our own correspondent.)

May 25.

This evening twelve aspirants were received into the confraternity of Children of Mary.

After Mass to-day there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until after Vespers.

The Sisters of St. Joseph are doing excellent work in the parish schools, and are receiving much praise for the results of their labors.

There will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on every Sunday afternoon in future for the children attending the Sunday school.

The night was cold, loud was his bark,  
For he'd been sleeping in the park;  
A friendly policeman heard him yell,  
And made him 'comfy' in the cell.  
Next morn before the beak he stood;  
His Worship thought he looked demure,  
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