

It is with regret that I have to record the death of Miss Cannon, who passed away last Saturday. Rev. Father McMenamin officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

Next Tuesday night Mrs. Levey is holding a social in the schoolroom in aid of her stall. It is very gratifying to the committee to see all taking such an interest in the forthcoming bazaar, and every effort is being made to make it a record success.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

On June 24, Mr. Thos. Reidy, an old resident of Napier, and a prominent member of St. Patrick's congregation, passed away, after a long illness, at the age of 56 years. He leaves a widow and grown-up family, to whom a wide circle of friends extend sincere sympathy.—R.I.P.

For some time a local conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society has been doing good work in the parish, and its usefulness has already been extended by the formation of a ladies' auxiliary, of which the following are the officers:—Mesdames J. O'Donovan (president), J. Madigan (vice-president), Murray (secretary), and Bailey (wardrobe-keeper).

The enrolment of parishioners in the Catholic Federation continues satisfactory. Arrangements have been made by Rev. Father O'Sullivan to obtain the signatures of adult parishioners to the petitions now in circulation, to be presented to both Houses of Parliament. Committees of ladies and gentlemen have been active during the week in promoting the signing of the petitions.

The winter school, arranged for the instruction of school teachers of this province in the scheme of physical culture, introduced by the Government, concluded on Saturday. Among the 170 teachers present were the local Marist Brothers. Two men and two women instructors had charge of the classes, which were conducted separately. Though a very strenuous fortnight was spent, the general verdict of the teachers was that much benefit will result from the course of training.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

June 30.

During the last few Sundays at all the city and suburban churches the petitions to both Houses of Parliament have been largely signed.

The Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., is to commence on Tuesday evening a few days' retreat for the Sisters of our Lady of Missions at the Convent, Lower High street.

Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., and Rev. Father Cullen, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, came south last week. Whilst in South Canterbury it is, I believe, the intention of the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy to give an astronomical lecture to the cadets and scouts in one of the centres.

The pupils of the higher classes at the Sacred Heart High School, Institute of Notre Dame des Missions, who were successful at the recent term competitive examination, were Mary Strouts, Mollie O'Malley, Maggie Murphy, Naomi Meikle, Irene Mahon, Gwendoline Wilson, and Dorothy McInerney.

In recent discourses at the Cathedral, both the Very Rev. Father Price, D.C., Adm., and Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., advocated the strengthening of the choir by the admission of new members. Not alone, it was pointed out, would they be meriting a reward by assisting in the singing of the praises of God, but those happily possessed of good voices would, by entering the choir, be afforded an excellent musical training, an accomplishment worth in itself all the time and sacrifice they might devote to it. Already six additional members have joined.

There was an enjoyable and well-attended social gathering on last Thursday evening in the Art Gallery. It was in aid of the parochial improvements' fund of St. Mary's, Christchurch North. At the conclusion of the programme refreshments were handed round.

The week's retreat to both divisions of the arch-confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral was concluded on last Sunday. At a special Mass, celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Price, D.C., Adm., at 8 o'clock, 600 members approached the Holy Table. After Vespers in the evening, an eloquent discourse was preached by the Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., the Papal blessing being afterwards imparted. There was a procession and solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Despite the frosty mornings during the whole week, the attendances at the 6 o'clock Masses were remarkably good, and the Communions during the period were 3000. Many new members have joined the arch-confraternity.

The quarterly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on last Monday evening in the Hibernian Hall. Bro. R. O'Brien, B.P., presided, and there was a good attendance of members. The branch was in mourning owing to the death of Bro. E. J. Rodgers, P.P., an active member of long standing. Sick pay amounting to £15 6s 8d was passed for payment to twelve members. Nominations of officers for the ensuing term were received and accounts to the amount of £85 4s 9d were passed for payment. The receipts for the quarter amounted to £293 14s 5d. The chaplain and president urged on members the desirability of aiding the committee who were promoting the carnival in aid of the Cathedral fund.

Evidently the citizens of Christchurch have come to regard the concerts of Mrs. Arthur Mead and her pupils as easily the chief musical events of the year. Proof of this is apparent by the fact that they never fail to draw crowded audiences. Such an enjoyable and eminently artistic event was the vocal and instrumental recital given on last Tuesday evening in the Theatre Royal. Few seats were vacant, and the reception accorded Mrs. Mead by the large audience must have been as gratifying as it was deserving, and singles her out as being certainly in the forefront of our Dominion artists. Besides this, the excellent showing of her pupils proves her to be not alone a vocalist of outstanding merit and accomplishment, but also a most successful teacher. Mrs. Mead's principal numbers were from grand opera and other classical compositions, her rendition of which earned particularly favorable press comments. Associated with Mrs. Mead were Mr. Ernest Empson (pianist) and several other instrumentalists, Miss Gladys Palmer and Mr. Arthur MacDonald (vocalists). Miss Hayward was an efficient accompanist.

The Very Rev. Father Price, D.C., Adm., is in receipt of an interesting letter from his Lordship Bishop Grimes, dated May 9, at Lourdes, and from which the Very Rev. Chancellor has kindly given me the following particulars:—His Lordship's health has improved, and he had the great satisfaction of meeting 800 Belgian men at Lourdes on their return journey from the Eucharistic Congress at Malta. He had the privilege of twice celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Grotto of Lourdes, and was present at the Bureau des Constatations at a critical examination of a cure by the celebrated Dr. Boissarie and other eminent doctors of France, Belgium, and Holland. The case his Lordship describes as a most wonderful miracle. He visited the Nuns of the Good Shepherd at Lyons, and after May intended, at the invitation of the Mother-General of the Sisters of Nazareth, residing for a while at Isleworth, England. Owing to the uncertain health of his Holiness the Pope, the Bishop had decided to defer his visit to Rome. When there he intended to visit the mother house of the Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. Last week his Lordship was due in Dublin, and on June 23 was to be at a distribution of prizes and breaking-up ceremony at All Hallows College.

Rakaia

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Very Rev. Dean Hyland passed through Rakaia on his way to preach at the devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration in Methven. He visited the school,

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