

ture," must be regarded as an endeavor to disarm a grave objection at the expense of both the law and the facts of the case. It is also, in effect, an admission that the League's scheme is bad if it forces (as it does)—or even allows—Government teachers to teach religion, as a Government subject, in public schools conducted at the public expense. So far as I am aware, no attempt has yet been made to reconcile with the moral law the League's proposal to force objecting teachers into defiance of their conscience, and to deprive them of rights of conscience which are enjoyed by even the worst criminals under lock and key in our prisons. On this important moral issue we are still awaiting the League's reply.

'This letter has run into so much space that I ask your good leave to allow me to embody other important matter in further communication, at as early a date as my engagements will allow.—I am, etc.,

* HENRY W. CLEARY, D.D.,
'Bishop of Auckland.'

'July 5.'

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

July 12.

On last Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary of the Angels' Church.

On last Friday the Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society met at St. Mary's Presbytery, under the presidency of Bro. Ellis. There was a good attendance of members, and interesting reports were received from the conferences of the Circumscription.

The annual social of the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society is an event that is looked forward to, and this year was no exception to the rule. St. Anne's Hall last Wednesday evening was prettily decorated for the occasion by a plentiful supply of bunting and green and white drapery. There was an attendance of nearly 200, among whom were Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., and the Rev. Fathers A. T. Herring and Peoples. Mr. W. H. Giles acted as secretary, whilst Mrs. Giles looked after the catering arrangements which evoked much appreciation from those present.

The winding-up meeting of the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee took place under the presidency of Mr. J. P. McGowan at St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott street, last Thursday evening. The secretaries read the balance sheets, which disclosed a profit of £53, £50 of which was handed over to the Wellington Catholic Education Board. The secretaries were accorded a hearty vote of thanks, and occasion was taken to place on record the congratulations of the committee to Mr. Callaghan, who for the past fifteen years has been associated with St. Patrick's Day celebrations, on his appointment as manager of the Napier Tramways. Mr. Callaghan briefly replied, thanking the committee for its kindness. He assured those present of the serious thought it had given him to consent to take the position, owing to his pleasant associations with the many committees he had worked on in Wellington.

A meeting of the Catholic Immigration Society was held at the presbytery, Patterson street, on Monday, July 7. Fourteen members were present and, in the absence of the president, the chair was taken by Mr. B. Ellis. A report was read giving an account of the visit paid to R.M.S. Remuera by two members, who met 17 Catholics on board. Five of the latter were domestic servants, two only remaining in Wellington. The latter, owing to our inability to house them, were obliged to remain at one of the Government hostels. These two have since obtained situations through the C.I.S. The five girls were entertained at afternoon tea by the St. Mary's Sewing Guild. Of the two families that arrived, one was in sad straits, having been

sent out by the Distressed Aid Society, London. Assistance was rendered by the C.I.S. and St. Vincent de Paul Society. A sub-committee, consisting of Misses Burke, Flannery, Vincent, and Breen, was formed, with the object of obtaining the names of Catholics who would accommodate arrivals from the Old Country. The C.I.S. is confronted with a very urgent need in the want of a Catholic hostel or boarding-house, the work of the society being much hampered by its inability to accommodate immigrants. Many inquiries are made by immigrants for the addresses of Catholic societies in other parts of New Zealand. Branches of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, willing to assist the C.I.S., are requested to communicate with Miss Wheeler, secretary, Wellington College.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's (ladies') branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening. Sister B. Craig (vice-president) presided over a large attendance of members. Rev. Father J. Herring (chaplain) and Bro. M. Walsh, P.B.P., were also present. The election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted in the return of the following:—President, Sister G. O'Flaherty; vice-president, Sister A. McAleer; secretary, Sister E. M. Carmody; treasurer, Sister E. McMahon; warden, Sister M. Brennan; guardian, Sister N. Bell; sick visitors—Sisters B. Craig, J. Breen, and A. McAleer; auditors, Bro. P. D. Hoskins and Sister D. McGrath; delegate to dispensary, Bro. M. Walsh. Three candidates were initiated and one proposed. The balance sheets for the quarter were read and showed that the past quarter had been a very good one.

The first contingent of the St. Vincent de Paul juvenile scout brigade was formed on July 4 at the Convent girls' school, Boulcott street, when Sister Gonzaga, with Mrs. Reichel, initiated the fourth, fifth, and sixth standard girls. In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. Father Joseph Herring, S.M., Mrs. Reichel presided, and explained to the girls the objects and duties of the scout brigade. The work of the 'scouts' will be to make friends of the Catholic children of the district within a given radius of each member's home, who may be attending non-Catholic schools, and endeavour to get them to attend Catholic schools. The contingent was then divided into three sections of ten members each, including a lieutenant of each section, with a captain and commander in charge of the whole contingent. The Marist Brothers' school boys will be organised as St. Vincent de Paul scouts some time next week under the direction of the men's branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The report and balance sheet of the Wellington Catholic Education Board for the first year has now been issued, and discloses a very satisfactory position. The receipts and expenditure are as follow:—Receipts—Thorndon, £207 5s 1d; Te Aro, £426 18s 10d; Newtown, £103 8s 6d; St. Patrick's Day, £65; Boxing Day, £112 4s 3d; total, £914 16s 8d. Expenditure—Thorndon, £255 9s 5d; Te Aro, £285 3s 10d; Newtown, £66 15s 4d; board account, £17 10s 6d; credit balance, £289 17s 7d; total, £914 16s 8d. The receipts for the parishes are made up from the penny collections, socials, and donations. Thorndon's expenditure exceeded the receipts, owing to the fact that a community of the Marist Brothers had to be provided for, and under the rules of the Order a community cannot be established with a lesser number than three, consequently Thorndon had to provide for three Brothers, whilst the pupils attending only numbered 70. Now, however, the pupils number 130 and the school receipts will, of course, be doubled, leaving the board a smaller deficiency to make good. The members of the board are naturally pleased with the result of the year's work, but whilst it is considered good, it could have been very much better if all Catholics had interested themselves in it. The board will organise a picture entertainment shortly, and trust that Catholics will patronise the entertainment, and thus help the cause of Catholic education.

The many friends of Mr. J. W. Callaghan throughout the Dominion will be pleased to learn of his appointment as manager of the Municipal Tramways at Napier,

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