

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

The provisional Dominion Executive met last Wednesday evening, when a quantity of correspondence was dealt with. The formation of the Dunedin Diocesan Council now completes the organisation. The provisional Executive will now hand over the reins of office to the permanent Executive, which has been elected by the Diocesan Councils. The members of the permanent Executive are as follow:—Auckland—Messrs. J. J. Furlong, B. McLaughlin, and E. R. Casey; Wellington—Very Rev. Dean Holley, and Messrs. J. W. Callaghan and George Girling-Butcher; Christchurch—Very Rev. Father Price, D.C., Very Rev. Dean Hyland, and Mr. J. R. Hayward; Dunedin—Rev. Father Coffey and Messrs. C. A. Shiel and D. Poppelwell. This Executive will meet in Wellington on Sunday next, and will elect the officers necessary to carry on the work, and arrange for the thorough organisation of the Federation throughout the Dominion.

The provisional Executive will present its report and make its recommendations to the permanent Executive, and then go out of office. The following are the members of the provisional Executive:—Messrs. George Girling-Butcher (chairman), B. Ellis (treasurer), P. D. Hoskins (secretary), A. H. Casey, J. J. L. Burke, R. P. Flanagan, T. J. McCosker, M. O'Kane, and J. W. Callaghan. Of these gentlemen only two (Messrs. Girling-Butcher and Callaghan) will occupy seats on the permanent Executive.

HAMPDEN.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On Sunday, after Mass in the Church of St. Mary Star of the Sea, Hampden, a branch of the Catholic Federation in connection with the Palmerston South parish was inaugurated after Rev. Father Lynch had outlined the objects and purposes of the Federation. The following were the officers appointed:—Vice-presidents, Mrs. M. Joyce and Mr. J. Dungey; secretary, Miss M. Gdanitz; treasurer, Miss C. Joyce.

OPHIR.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

After Mass on Sunday last the congregation of St. Peter's, Ophir, assembled in the church to establish a branch of the Catholic Federation. Rev. Father O'Dea, who presided, outlined the objects of the Federation, after which a parish committee was formed, consisting of the following:—Miss Flannery, Mesdames McDonald and Kinney, Messrs. J. Leamy, B. Flannery, T. Flannery, sen., T. Flannery, jun., A. Kinney, D. Kinney, T. Donnelly, J. Moran, J. Ryan, with Rev. Father O'Dea as president of the committee. Subsequently the parish committee elected Messrs. A. Kinney and T. Flannery, sen., vice-presidents, John Leamy treasurer, and Mrs. D. Kinney secretary.

TUAKAU.

(From our own correspondent.)

On Sunday, July 13, a meeting of Catholics in the parish of Tuakau was held for the purpose of forming a branch of the Catholic Federation. Mr. F. G. J. Temm, diocesan secretary of the Federation in Auckland, was present, and assisted in the establishing of the movement in this district.

The Rev. Father Tigar, O.P., presided, and explained the aims and objects of the Federation, and the reasons why all Catholics should join in this movement. Mr. Temm, in supplementing the remarks of Father Tigar, showed how Catholics in other parts of the world had benefited by reason of their organising and forming themselves into one strong federation, and pointed out that the time was now opportune for Catholics in this Dominion to assert themselves and stand

united shoulder to shoulder in the interests of Catholicity.

The following were then elected to form the parish committee:—President, Rev. Father Tigar, O.P.; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. J. Dromgool and M. Black; secretary, Mr. T. P. McGahan; treasurer, Mrs. B. G. Geraghty; delegates to diocesan council, Messrs. M. Black and H. McGuire; committee—Messrs. M. Foley, F. McGuire, T. Murray, G. O'Connor, M. B. Geraghty, W. DeGoff, and J. McGahan, jun.

Correspondence was received from the diocesan council, exhorting all Catholics in this district to energetically further the obtaining of signatures to Parliament to the petition now in circulation. It was decided to inaugurate a thorough canvass of the district in order to obtain members, and the committee intend to leave no stone unturned until every Catholic in the parish is enrolled.

OBITUARY

MRS. EUGENE CULLOTY, RAKAIA.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Early on the morning of Wednesday, July 2, Mrs. Eugene Culloty, of Somerton, passed away. She came into Rakaia for medical advice the day before, and remained in the township. No danger was apprehended but about midnight complications arose, and before Mr. Culloty could be summoned she expired. Her death, so sudden and unexpected, caused a profound sensation, and deep sympathy is felt for the bereaved family. On Friday morning, after a Requiem Mass, the funeral took place. Rev. Dr. Kennedy spoke a few touching words of sympathy and encouragement to the sorrowing family. Mrs. Culloty was the daughter of Mr. J. Power, of Kaiapoi. She was only thirty-eight years of age, and leaves a young family of eight children—four boys and four girls.—R.I.P.

SISTER M. XAVIER BURNS, AUCKLAND.

I regret to record the death of Sister M. Xaxier Burns, who passed away at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, on Tuesday, June 29, fortified by all the rites of the Church. The deceased, who was born in Ireland in 1842, entered St. Mary's Convent in 1869, where she made her vows in 1871. Sister M. Xavier spent the greater part of her life teaching in the different schools of the Order in the diocese of Auckland, and visiting the sick and the poor in the different districts in which she was placed. For some years she superintended the Convent at Devonport, but her health failing, she was obliged to retire from active duties, and, for some years her life was one of great suffering, borne patiently unto the end. Telegrams and letters of sympathy were received from friends and former pupils of the deceased, to whom she endeared herself by her bright and loving disposition. A Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Golden, after which the burial took place. Among the relatives are Mrs. Carran, Northcote (sister of deceased), Miss Burns, Mr. Andrew Burns, and Mr. George Burns, Burnside; and Mr. Carran (nephew). The Rev. Father Carran was unavoidably absent.—R.I.P.

The Rev. Father J. J. Gilmartin, C.M., for some years attached to the teaching staff of St. Stanislaus' College, Bathurst, and who has been more recently engaged in mission work, is returning to Ireland.

On Tuesday, June 24, the silver jubilee of Very Rev. M. Byrne, parish priest of Wangaratta, was celebrated with much enthusiasm and rejoicing by the parishioners. At a banquet, his Lordship Bishop Reville, on behalf of the clergy, presented Father Byrne with 100 sovereigns and an address. At a conversation in Her Majesty's Theatre, the laity testified their warm affection and respect for their zealous parish priest. After an excellent concert, Dr. J. L. Henderson presented Father Byrne with a purse of 210 sovereigns.

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