

OBITUARY

MISS HILDA GERTRUDE McBRIDE, INVERCARGILL.

(From our Invercargill correspondent.)

I regret to have to record the death of Miss Hilda Gertrude McBride, which took place at the residence of her sister, Mrs. F. Pritchard, Spey street, Invercargill, on the evening of Friday, July 25. The deceased, who was the youngest daughter of Mrs. Susan McBride and the late Hugh McBride of Lake Hayes, Arrowtown, passed away at the early age of twenty-one years. For some years Miss McBride had borne with fortitude a serious illness, which baffled the best medical skill. Her condition took a turn for the worse a week prior to her death, and she passed away in the presence of her mother and her eight brothers and sisters. She was at all times most devoted to her religious duties, and, fortified by the last rites of the Church, she died a happy and a holy death. The deceased was attended in her last illness by the Rev. Fathers Woods and Foley, the latter officiating at the graveside. This (Monday) morning the Children of Mary, of whom the late Miss McBride was an aspirant, had a Mass said for the repose of her soul.—R.I.P.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

July 28.

Public musical and elocutionary competitions, under the auspices of St. Canice's Club, are to take place at the Victoria Theatre on October 16, 17, and 18. Rev. Father McMenamin, of Petone, will judge the elocutionary section, and Mrs. A. A. Wilson, L.A.B. (Westport), will adjudicate in the vocal and instrumental sections.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Canice's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Canice's Club-rooms on Wednesday evening last, the president (Bro. F. Calnon) being in the chair. Bro. D. Dennehy, who has ably filled the office of secretary during the past four years, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Bro. F. O'Gorman; vice-president, Bro. F. J. Hansby; secretary, Bro. R. Annibal; treasurer, Bro. J. Lambert; warden, Bro. P. Hughes; guardian, Bro. M. Hennessey; sick visitors, Bros. P. Murphy and P. Niven; auditors, Bros. J. Radford and F. O'Gorman. Rev. Father Ormond was appointed to represent the branch at the half-yearly district meeting to be held in Auckland on August 28.

Wanganui

NEW CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The ceremony of the blessing and laying of the foundation stone of the new Catholic presbytery in Campbell street was performed by his Grace Archbishop Redwood on Sunday afternoon, July 27. After his Grace, who was attended by the parochial clergy, had blessed and laid the stone on which was an appropriate inscription in Latin, he delivered a very interesting address. The new building, his Grace stated, was an evidence of further progress in Catholic life, and a wonderful evidence of the advance which had been made. The present occasion brought vividly to his mind the small beginnings of the Catholic Church in Wanganui. He remembered the first little presbytery, also the first portion of the presbytery built by the late Dean Kirk, and the enlargement of the same, and paid a tribute to the late Dean Kirk for the wonders he had accomplished with the slender resources then at his command. His Grace brought before his hearers the recollection he had of the first church, comparing it to the wayside churches of Europe; and referred to an amusing incident—the falling through the white pine flooring of the whole congregation one fine Sunday. His Grace proceeded to tell of the new church, erected by the late Dean, which was one of great beauty for

those days, of its enlargements, of the beginnings of the convent, and of the successive enlargements of the same, and of the erection of the Marist Brothers' School on the same ground, the whole being a striking illustration of the proverb, *multum in parvo*. He also dealt with the need upon growth for leaving such cramped quarters, of the departure of the Brothers to their school in Wicksteed street, of the Sisters to their magnificent convent on St. John's Hill, in the immediate future of the clergy to their new and commodious quarters, and later on, perhaps in a few years, of the congregation to a new church of stone and brick. His Grace concluded by congratulating the Very Rev. Dean Holley and the congregation on their enterprise, and the architect on the beautiful design of the well-planned presbytery.

The Very Rev. Dean Holley, S.M., thanked his Grace for coming amongst them for the ceremony, dwelt on the pressing need that existed for a new and commodious residence for the clergy, and emphasised the many and useful purposes to the parish, which would be served by the new presbytery.

The architect is Mr John S. Swan, of Wellington, and the builders are Messrs. W. Husband and Son.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

The social in aid of the church funds, will be held in Victoria Hall on the 25th inst.

At the ordinary meeting of the Hibernian Society, held on Tuesday evening, July 29, Bro. T. Pound, P.P., was the recipient of a past president's certificate from the officers and brothers of the local branch.

At the last weekly meeting of the Catholic Club an instructive and interesting lecture on Socialism was given by the Rev. Father Foley for which he was cordially thanked by the members present.

Twenty-three teaching Sisters of various Orders were awarded the degree of B.A., at the Catholic University of America this year; while the degree of M.A. was given to 24. Forty-nine Sisters, representing sixteen different communities, were in residence during the academic year. Living accommodations were provided for a small number of the Sisters in the convents of the Benedictine Nuns and the Sisters of Divine Providence. Those who could not find accommodations in these two convents rented seven cottages in the immediate vicinity and turned them into temporary convents. The students of Teachers' College were all Sisters who, through long years of teaching and of religious life (says the *Sacred Heart Review*), were thoroughly accustomed to regularity and work. The needs of their religious life were amply provided for by five chaplains who said daily Mass in the several convents.

THE BRIGHTEST HOPE FOR THE RHEUMATIC VICTIM IS RHEUMO.

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