

Master Fergus Reeves; song, 'Colleen bawn,' Mr. J. Boyce; violin solo, 'Ye banks and braes,' Master B. O'Brien; comic song, 'Are you positive,' Mr. W. B. Keany; chorus, 'A toast to Erin,' Marist Brothers' School; musical monologue, Mr. G. Warren; song, Mr. C. Fennell; instrumental quartet, 'Intermezzo Venetien,' Boys' Institute; recitation, 'The eve of Waterloo,' Miss Frewish; song, Miss Garty; song, 'Sing, sing, birds on the wing,' Miss M. Packer; humorous selections, Messrs. F. Eller and W. B. Keany.

PRESENTATION TO FATHER A. T. HERRING, S.M.

On Thursday evening a very pleasant gathering took place in St. Anne's Hall, Wellington South, when the parishioners and members of the different societies assembled to bid good-bye to the Rev. Father Alfred T. Herring, S.M., on the occasion of his leaving to join the missionary staff of the Marist Fathers at Temuka, and to make him some valuable presents that would be of use to him in his new sphere of missionary labors. The parishioners were represented by the members of the church committee. Ven. Archdeacon Devoy spoke of the deep regret he felt in parting with so good and zealous a confrere, after five and a-half years in St. Anne's parish. He said that all the parishioners regretted Father Herring's departure. He had endeared himself to all by his zeal and devotedness to his priestly duties, and the present most satisfactory spiritual state of the parish may be attributed in a great measure to his untiring labors for the glory of God and the good of souls. All would miss him, and all would follow him with their prayers and good wishes in his missionary career.

Rev. Father W. J. Peoples, S.M., said he deeply regretted the fact that Father Herring was leaving them. His associations with him were the most pleasant and he would always look back in after years to the happy days they had spent together in St. Anne's Parish. He wished Father Herring every success in his missionary career.

Mr. J. E. Gamble, secretary of the church committee, voiced the regret of the parishioners at the departure of Father Herring, who had endeared himself to the people by his saintly life and devotion to duty. His exhortations and his characteristic energy in the service of his Divine Master were, as the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy mentioned, mainly responsible for the present healthy spiritual condition of the parish. The parishioners would always watch with interest his career as a missionary, and he could rest assured that their prayers would be offered up for him and his great work.

Mr. Thos. P. Gill, of Island Bay, also voiced the regret of the Catholics in that part of the parish at Father Herring's departure.

Bro. Thos. Pender, on behalf of the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, of which Father Herring was chaplain, expressed regret at his departure. Father Herring was, he said, a very keen Hibernian, and had done yeoman service in strengthening the branch.

Bro. Giles also supported Bro. Pender's remarks, and paid a tribute to the keen interest taken by Father Herring in the intellectual advancement of the members. He had, at great inconvenience, inaugurated a literary and debating society in the branch, which had proved most beneficial to them. His loss would be keenly felt, and his place would be most difficult to fill.

Miss K. Robinson, on behalf of the Children of Mary, of which sodality Father Herring was spiritual director, read an address, expressing their sorrow at his departure and their deep appreciation of his efforts on their behalf. Their sodality, which was the strongest in Wellington, owed its success to Father Herring's zeal.

Rev. Father Herring, who was deeply moved, returned his sincerest thanks to the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, who had been so kind to him during his sojourn in Wellington South, to his esteemed confrere, Rev. Father Peoples, the parishioners, the Children of Mary, and the Hibernian Society. He thanked them

all for their nice and handsome presents, and for their kindly references to himself. He regretted his departure from such pleasant associations, but he felt that he had a call to the missionary life, and had volunteered for that service. He paid a tribute to the great piety, charity, devotion, and zeal of the people of Wellington South, and said he would always look back with feelings of joy at the spiritual state of St. Anne's parish during his sojourn amongst them. He exhorted them to continue their good work by strengthening their sodalities and societies. He spoke of the urgent need of organisation, and of the excellent work of the Catholic Federation; no Catholic worthy of the name should be outside its ranks. In conclusion, he thanked them most sincerely and trusted that they would always remember him in their prayers, and when offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass he, in turn, would remember them.

The remainder of the evening was spent socially. The presents consisted of two beautiful travelling bags and a case of razors from the parishioners of St. Anne's, a nice suit case from the Catholics of Island Bay, a handsome clock encased in leather from the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, a travelling rug from the Children of Mary, a magnificent Limerick lace alb from the nuns and children of the Sacred Heart Convent (Island Bay), of which Father Herring was chaplain, and presents from the children of the different parish schools. In addition, the Rev. Father Herring was elected a life honorary member of the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

August 15.

Mr. G. F. Fama left Wanganui yesterday morning for Patea, to where he has been transferred by the Post and Telegraph Department. Mr. Fama was entertained at the residence of Mr. J. G. Swan by a number of members of the Wanganui Operatic Society, of which he was an enthusiastic and useful member. Opportunity was taken to make Mr. Fama a suitable presentation, Dr. Hatherly, Mr. Swan, Mr. Cecil Wray, and others paying tributes to the guest of the evening. Mr. Fama feelingly replied.

What promises to be a first-class entertainment will be given in the Opera House on August 29 by the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School. An attractive programme has been under rehearsal for some time, and all tastes are being catered for. As the Brothers desire to raise funds to provide school prizes, it is to be hoped that all interested in Catholic education will give their support.

There was a very large attendance at the social, which was held in the Fire Brigade Hall spent, and the arrangements reflected the greatest credit on the ladies' committee consisting of Mesdames Gibbie, Lloyd, Trainer, Lacey, Cullinane, and Misses Doyle, Clarke, M. McCormick, Donnelly, Hogan, and Roche, with Miss Cullinane as secretary. Mr. W. Setter, who was general secretary, is to be congratulated on the success of the social.

The inaugural meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held on Sunday evening, August 10, in St. Joseph's Hall. Among those present were Very Rev. Dean Holley, S.M. (president), Mr. J. Carmody (St. Mary's), Mr. E. J. L. Whiting (secretary, St. Mary's), several members of St. Mary's Conference, and about thirty ladies. Very Rev. Dean Holley addressed the meeting, expressing pleasure at the number present, and explained at length the objects for which the gathering had been called. Mrs. D. Cullinane moved, Mrs. Meehan seconded, and it was agreed to, that a Ladies' Auxiliary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society be formed in Wanganui. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. Meehan; vice-presidents—Mrs. Lacey, Mrs. D. Cullinane, and Miss F. O'Neill; secretary, Miss Aramburn; treasurer, Miss Cullinane; wardrobe-keeper, Miss Kennedy. It was decided to call the conference by the name of St. Lawrence (martyr), whose feast it was on the date of the first meeting. Members are to meet every fortnight, on alternate Tuesdays with the Hibernian Society.

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