

Presentation to Father Bowe, Carterton

There was a large gathering of the Catholic congregation at Victoria Hall, Carterton, last evening (says the *Wairarapa Daily News* of August 14), the occasion being a social to the Rev. Father Bowe on his approaching departure to Dannevirke. The affair had been arranged at very short notice, the announcement of Father Bowe's departure only having been made on Sunday; but it was excellent in every respect, and most enjoyably carried out by members of the congregation, Mesdames Berrill and Dudson acting as hostesses. Songs were contributed by: Mrs. Wilkins, 'Every ship will find a harbor'; little Dolly Dudson, 'Take me back to heaven, daddy'; Mr. Beal, 'Asleep in the deep'; Miss Redmond, 'Sing me something Irish'; Mrs. Nix, 'Come back to Erin.' Accompaniments were played by Mrs. Dudson, Miss Dudson, Miss Maguire, and Miss Redmond. Little Miss Therza Rogers performed a classical dance with delightful daintiness and grace.

At a suitable interval Mr. J. A. Dudson and Mr. R. J. Chapman escorted Father Bowe to the stage, and the former made a presentation to the Rev. Father on behalf of the Carterton congregation. Mr. Dudson said the duty which had been thrust upon him at short notice, was both pleasing and painful. It was to offer a token of appreciation to Father Bowe, and at the same time say good-bye to him, and wish him God-speed on his journey to a new district. Father Bowe had been among them for some six years, and had faithfully devoted himself to the spiritual welfare of the congregation and promoted their temporal improvement. The Rev. Father had been working earnestly at a special object, and had secured some £400 towards it, but was now called away before completing his task. However, he had left a nice nest egg for his successor. They were all very sorry to lose Father Bowe, but he was going to a larger parish, and would therefore have a greater scope of work. He asked Father Bowe to accept a purse of sovereigns as a small token of the esteem in which he was held by the congregation of Carterton. The gift carried with it the best wishes of all for his future happiness and success in his work.

Mr. C. Sullivan, then asked Father Bowe to accept a travelling rug and bag from the Featherston parishioners, with their good wishes.

In acknowledging the gifts and kind words accompanying them, Rev. Father Bowe said that anything he had done was but his duty, and his duty had been a labor of love, and he could have done nothing without the hearty co-operation he had received from the congregations at Carterton, Martinborough, Greytown, and Featherston. This had been his first parish, and naturally he felt a peculiar and particular interest in the people first placed under his charge. He was sorry to leave them, but he had to obey orders. He had not thought he would have had time to bid farewell to all the parishioners, but he now found that his successor, Father Kinkead, could not arrive until after Sunday week, and this would give him opportunity to see most of them before he left. He thanked Mr. Dudson and Mr. Sullivan for their kindly remarks, and the people for the presentations. With regard to the sovereigns, he asked to be allowed to hand them back to be added to the fund for their own school, as referred to by Mr. Dudson. He expressed his gratitude to the people for their many acts of kindness to him since he came into the parish, and complimented the Carterton ladies of the congregation for the fine social they had given in his honor at such short notice.

The generous offer of Father Bowe to devote his gift to the school fund was vigorously declined, and it was insisted that he should keep it for his personal use.

Vocal items were then contributed by Miss and Mr. Dudson. A most pleasing supper, provided and served by the ladies, was enjoyed by all. A very successful function was closed by the singing of 'Auld lang syne.'

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

WELLINGTON.

The Dominion Executive met last Thursday at the presbytery, Patterson street, Mr. Geo. Girling-Butcher presiding. Mr. Kennelly, treasurer of the Ormond branch, who is on a visit to Wellington, was present. It was decided to interview the Hierarchy on the occasion of their visit to Wellington, and to lay before them matters of interest. It was decided to call in the petitions, both signed and unsigned forms, and the secretary was instructed to circularise each parish for that purpose. A communication was received from the Catholic Federation of Victoria seeking the co-operation of the New Zealand Federation in obtaining a visit from the Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan, S.J., to Australia and New Zealand. It was decided to refer the matter to the Hierarchy for the necessary permission. It was also decided to refer remits in connection with immigration and literature from the Dominion Council to diocesan councils for action. The Executive is still in communication with the Government in respect to the subsidy for housing of immigrant girls. The question of organisation will be dealt with at the next meeting. It is feared that parish committees are not fully alive to the extreme importance of enrolling every Catholic. Some are of the opinion that there is not enough work for parish committees. This is a fallacy, and shows that people who talk like this are not conversant with the aims and objects of the Federation. If the work of enrolling every Catholic is complete, there is the work of disseminating Catholic literature. What is being done to increase the circulation of Catholic newspapers? How many in the parish are, for instance, subscribing to the *N.Z. Tablet*? What is being done to circulate Catholic Truth Society publications? Is the committee catering for the welfare of Catholic societies, such, for instance, as the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Hibernian Society, and young men's clubs? There is plenty of work to do, and if each committee has zealous and devoted officers, it will be a labor of love to see the Church progressing in their respective parishes. The committees will shortly be supplied with the amended copies of the constitution and rules, and also reports of the Dominion Council meeting, recently held in Wellington.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

JUSTICE.—We have dealt with the matter at length in another column, and it does not seem necessary to add anything to what we have there said.

T. MCGLOIN.—We have no information regarding the distribution of the *Independent* subscription, which was, we understand, for temporary distress caused by an epidemic. The *Independent* fund has been declared closed.

F.R.—The last Eucharistic Congress was held in April because of the climatic conditions of Malta. The date of the next Congress (at Lourdes) has not yet been fixed, but it will be held in the early autumn, possibly about August 15, the date of the Feast of the Assumption.

IRISH.—You do not give sufficient particulars to enable a definite answer to be given. If your sister has already purchased, and is paying off the principal and interest, a lump sum in payment of the balance will be accepted at any time. The precise amount of the lump sum due varies under the different Acts, and could only be finally determined by application to the Land Purchase Commissioner. If she has not yet purchased, she can only do so if a majority of the tenants and also the landlord are agreeable to the sale of the holdings; or if her land comes under the jurisdiction of the Congested Districts Board. In the latter case the Board can compel a sale, and they have a final say in determining the price.

HELD OVER

Owing to pressure on our space we have been obliged to hold over 'Commercial,' 'Items of Sport,' and some diocesan news.

Better Teeth

At HOWEY WALKER'S,

Less Pain,

QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

Less Expense.