

D. McCormick. The musical portion of the programme was contributed by Misses T. Hicks, M. Quigley, Messrs Duncan, McDonald, and E. McSherry. The supper, provided by the ladies, was much appreciated. The singing of 'Auld lang syne' terminated a pleasant evening's entertainment.

Occasion was taken at the social held by the Catholic Club for making a presentation to Mrs. D. McCormick by her fellow-members of St. Mary's Catholic Club. Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, in making the presentation (which was a recognition of Mrs. McCormick's good work in the interests of St. Mary's Club), referred to the enthusiasm always displayed by Mrs. McCormick in all Catholic matters, and eulogised her work as president of St. Mary's Club. The recipient briefly and feelingly returned thanks.

Messrs. E. McSherry and W. J. Cunningham, two prominent members of the Catholic Young Men's Club, delivered recently, before the members and their friends, an instructive lecture on 'First aid.' The charts shown were minutely explained by the lecturers, while the demonstration as to the proper method of attending the injured was keenly watched. On the termination of the lecture, Mr. M. J. Burgess moved and Messrs T. M. Brophy and F. K. Cooper seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs Cunningham and McSherry, the vote being carried by acclamation.

The attendance was only moderate at the last weekly meeting of the Catholic Young Men's Club. Mr. M. J. Moriarty (vice-president) presided. The programme for the evening took the form of a 'Parliamentary election.' The candidates were: Messrs. J. A. Lennon (Reform party), T. M. Brophy (Liberal), and E. McSherry (Independent). The speeches of the candidates were very interesting, and gave evidence of considerable thought on the part of the speakers. The vote taken resulted in Mr J. A. Lennon (Reform party) being returned.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

September 22.

On Wednesday last there passed away, fortified by all the rites of the Church, Mrs. Ellen Fitzgerald, wife of Mr Jas. Fitzgerald, and mother of ex-Detective Fitzgerald, in her seventy-second year. The funeral took place on Saturday, and was attended by a large number of mourners.—R.I.P.

On the initiative of the Timaru Catholic Club a meeting of Timaru literary societies was held in the Herald Buildings on Tuesday last to take steps towards holding literary and general competitions. The Rev. Brother Egbert and Messrs. S. Venning and M. J. Doyle were the Catholic Club delegates, and Mr. S. Venning was elected as one of three to go into the matter early next year.

The mission conducted by the Marist Missionary Fathers is being attended by very large congregations. The week-day Masses, which are followed by instructions, are very well attended, whilst at the evening exercises only standing room is often available. On Thursday evening there was a procession around the interior of the church in honor of the Blessed Virgin. On Sunday the greater part of the congregation at the early Mass received Holy Communion. As it was the 'women's Sunday' the various women's confraternities and the Children of Mary approached the Holy Table in very large numbers. The total number of communicants at both Masses amounted to over 700, and it may be added that over 300 adults approached the altar rails every morning during the week. On Sunday evening the sacred edifice was literally packed with over 1100 adults. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Father McCarthy, S.M., and the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., led the congregational singing. The zealous and devoted missionaries—Very Rev. Father O'Connell and Rev. Fathers McCarthy and Herring—are working most zealously for the success of the mission, which will be brought to a close on Sunday next with a Communion breakfast for the men. On Thurs-

day evening there will be a special solemnity in honor of the Blessed Sacrament.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

The sacred concert, which was recently held in the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, was given by the local choir under the conductorship of Mr. A. Dobbs, and several members of the Cathedral Choir and others assisted on the occasion.

An effort may be made to secure the attendance of the famous band of St. Augustine's Orphanage, Bendigo, for the Auckland Exhibition contest. The Exhibition Band Contest Committee is most anxious to secure the presence of the boys' band, and it is to be hoped success may crown its efforts.

Rev. Father Roche was detained here last week, and did not, as intended, leave for Sydney on Monday. He addressed the members of the Holy Family confraternity at their usual weekly meeting. The annual week's mission to this confraternity will commence on Sunday, October 19, and will be conducted by one of the Redemptorist Fathers.

Reference was made recently to the work going on at the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby. The improvements are extensive, and afford much-needed room, and will seat another 250 people, making the total seating accommodation 750. The additions include two transepts, and a sanctuary, the interior design now being cruciform. A new iron roof, replacing the old shingle one, has been put on, and the whole edifice has been repainted and renovated. A new sacristy and committee room have been added. The total improvements will cost £1200.

The monthly meeting of the Guard of Honor Society was held in the Cathedral on the first Sunday of September. The Rev. Father O'Doherty (spiritual director) was present, and Sister Mercedes presided over a large attendance of members. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Miss C. Gough; vice-president, Miss B. Tuohy; secretary, Miss K. Commons; treasurer, Miss L. Kavanagh. Father O'Doherty congratulated the members on their successful social gathering, which was held in aid of the altar funds. He also thanked them for their presentation, and the social evening given in his honor on his feast day.

At the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on Thursday evening a lecture on 'The life and times of Robert Emmet' was delivered by Mr. J. J. Sullivan. There was an excellent attendance. The lecturer dealt most interestingly with the exciting times in which the favorite patriot of the Irish people lived and played so important a part. The lecturer gave a very interesting account of Emmet's student days in Trinity College, during which time he gave promise of the high patriotic ideals by which he was animated in later years; of the Volunteer movement, Grattan's Parliament, and the shameful methods adopted for its destruction, and of the patriots of the time. The arrest and so-called trial, and Emmet's own vindication of his motives were graphically described. The position of Ireland then and now was compared. Belfast was then the nursery and home of Irish patriotism. What a contrast with the Belfast of to-day. The lecture throughout was highly instructive and entertaining. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer at the close. Mr. George Higgins presided. During the evening several musical items were capably rendered. The net proceeds of the lecture are to be handed to the Sisters of St. Joseph, of St. Benedict's parish.

Waihi

(From our own correspondent.)

September 18.

The Rev. Father Wright expects to leave Victoria on his return to Waihi about October 1.